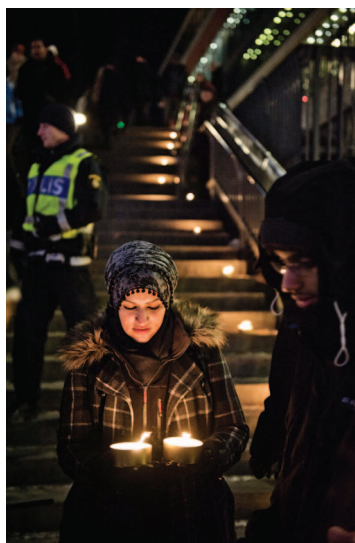


Swedes shocked by 1st terror attack in three decades



Sama Sarsour from Swedish Muslims for Peace and Justice (SMFR) participates in a peace demonstration at Sergels square in central Stockholm Sunday Dec. 12, 2010.

Associated Press

MALIN RISING,
Associated Press

STOCKHOLM (AP) — No one died except the suspected bomber, but two explosions in Sweden's capital tore at the fabric of this tolerant and open nation — a society that hadn't seen a terrorist attack in more than three decades.

Two people were wounded in central Stockholm on Saturday in what appeared to be the first suicide bombing in the history of Sweden, which has been spared the major terrorist strikes seen in several other European countries.

A car exploded in the middle of the seasonal shopping frenzy, shooting flames and causing several smaller blasts as people ran screaming from the scene. The blast that killed the alleged bomber came moments later further a few blocks away from the car explosion on a busy pedestrian street.

Continued on Page A13



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SNOW DOME

Storm socks Midwest, cancels flights, closes roads

Snow covers the collapsed roof of the Metrodome in Minneapolis on Sunday Dec. 12, 2010. The Metrodome's Teflon roof failed about 5 a.m. Sunday after a blizzard dumped more than 17 inches of snow on the area Saturday. The roof collapse moves Giants-Vikings game to Detroit.

Associated Press

Read more in Aruba Today Sports

Madoff son's death ruled suicide

Read Page A3

Elizabeth Edwards remembered for her wit, resolve



Former Democratic presidential candidate John Edwards and his children, Emma Claire, left, Jack and Cate, far right, leave the funeral service for Elizabeth Edwards at Edenton Street United Methodist Church in Raleigh, N.C., Saturday, Dec. 11, 2010. Edwards died Tuesday of cancer at the age of 61.

(AP Photo/Jim R. Bounds)

By MIKE BAKER,
Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — Family and friends of Elizabeth Edwards recalled her Saturday as an idealistic law student who challenged professors, a political sage who offered

advice at every turn and a matriarch who comforted her family even as she was dying of breast cancer.

Edwards' funeral drew hundreds to Edenton Street United Methodist Church, where she once mourned

her 16-year-old son, Wade, after he died in a car crash in 1996. She was to be buried next to him during a private ceremony.

Speakers reflected on a multifaceted personality: Edwards, 61, was an intellectual who frequented discount clothing stores like T.J. Maxx, she was a fiery competitor, and she was a public figure who won the private confidence of virtually everyone she met.

"There aren't words that are good enough," said daughter Cate Edwards, whose eulogy contained a passage from a letter her mother spent years preparing to leave to her children after she was gone.

"I've loved you in the best ways I've known how," the letter said. "All I ever really needed was you, your love, your presence, to make my life complete."

John Edwards, her estranged husband, did not speak. The couple had four children together. John Edwards sat

alongside 28-year-old Cate, 12-year-old Emma Claire and 10-year-old Jack. They held hands as they followed the casket into the sanctuary.

Their oldest daughter talked of how her mother comforted those around her as she lay dying — at one point barely able to speak — while she held her daughter and John's hands, looking back and forth to each, repeating, "I'm OK. I'm OK."

"She was way more worried about us than we were about her," Cate Edwards said.

She talked of her mother's strength and grace and also of her witty advice about everything from clothing (there are always fewer regrets wearing solids than patterns) to marriage (don't settle for the first boy you ever meet).

"She's been a lighthouse to all of us — a point of guidance when we all feel lost," she said.

The memorial brought several political figures, including

Sen. John Kerry, who led the Democratic presidential ticket in 2004 that included John Edwards, and North Carolina Gov. Beverly Perdue.

Two of Elizabeth Edwards' longtime friends, Hargrave McElroy and Glenn Bergenfield, also gave eulogies.

McElroy spoke admiringly of the fiery woman who first became a close friend as the couple raised their young children, telling stories of Edwards' expertise at any pursuit that required intellect — from board games to sports trivia. She said Edwards was always an optimist.

"She knew who she was. She never held back. She was without pretense," McElroy said.

Bergenfield described a woman he first met in law school who challenged her professors with a vibrant mind and who possessed "big world, head-turning, walk-into-the-pole gorgeous" looks. □

Be one of the first to see this once-in-a-lifetime show

Zissles launches Christmas show tonight

PASEO HERENCIA — The Holiday Spirit is in full swing for the first Christmas Show at Zissles. With this new addition to the existing show guests will really get into the Holiday Season! From December 8th till the 31st a special Christmas block will be added to the existing show taking people on a journey past well-known and new Christmas and holiday songs.

Zissles introduces a new menu starting tonight December 8th, together with the introduction of the Christmas block of the show. This menu offers guests to choose 1 out of 2 different menu's in different price categories. Within each menu there is a variety of appetizers, entrees and desserts to choose from. The new menu will also stay in place after the Christmas block is taken out of the show again.

The first menu for the new Dinner & Show is just \$85 and includes the most delectable Caribbean Fish Soup which is a full-bodied soup with grouper, snapper, shrimp and calamari or a choice of Popular Potato Leek Soup which is a creamy leek soup with crispy bacon or a delicious Caprese Salad of fresh mozzarella, tomato and pesto served with a balsamic dressing.

Then it is land or sea with your choice of a juicy Rib Eye Steak accompanied by a green pepper corn sauce or Grouper Filet complemented by an Aruban Creole sauce followed by either a delicious Crème Brulee or Chocolate Cake

The second menu is just a few dollars more at \$95 with gives you a choice of Potato Leek Soup or Caribbean Fish Soup or a splendid Caesar Salad chock full of tossed romaine lettuce, parmesan



cheese, croutons and a Caesar dressing or the most fabulous Fried Brie Salad on a bed of mesclun lettuce served with a red fruit coulis. The main course gives you a choice of Filet Mignon accompanied by a mushroom cognac sauce or a Savvy Seabass complemented

by a pernod shrimp sauce or to die for Ossobucco di Vitello stewed with red wine, rosemary, oregano, thyme and onion, served with Linguini.

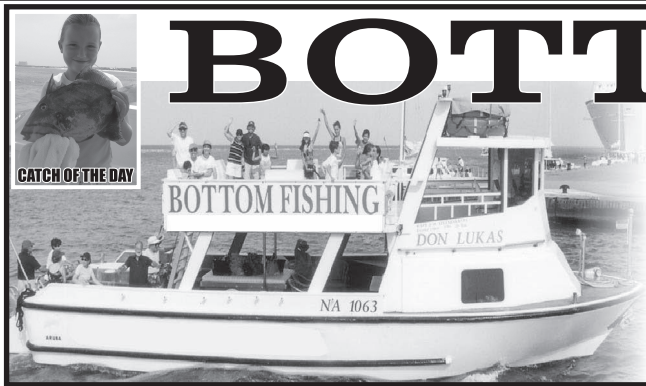
The spectacular ending is either a Chocolate Martini or Praline Cheese Cake.

Both menus can be upgraded

for only \$14.50 by adding ½ lobster tail and a champagne sorbet/intermezzo.

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Madoff son's death in NYC apartment ruled suicide

By LARRY NEUMEISTER,
Associated Press

NEW YORK — The hanging death of jailed financier Bernard Madoff's eldest son in New York City has formally been ruled a suicide. The cause of death for Mark Madoff was released Sunday by the city's medical examiner's office.

The body of Mark Madoff was found Saturday morning hanging in his loft apartment while his 2-year-old son slept nearby. It was the second anniversary of the day his father was arrested in the worst investment fraud in American history.

Mark Madoff had been targeted by authorities as someone who failed to blow the whistle on his father's fraud, but he had maintained that he alerted authorities when his father confessed. Bernie Madoff is serving a 150-year prison sentence after pleading guilty to fraud charges. He was never charged in the case that sent his father to prison after thousands were swindled of their life savings, but for two years, the eldest son of disgraced financier Bernard Madoff still bore the toxic burden of a name that meant fraud to the world.

On Saturday, the second anniversary of the day his father was arrested in the worst investment fraud in American history, Mark Madoff, 46, was found dead in the living room of his SoHo loft apartment in Manhattan. He was hanging from a black dog leash while his 2-year-old son slept nearby.

People close to him said he was despondent over press coverage of his father's case, an ongoing criminal investigation of Madoff family members in the multibillion-dollar scheme and his struggle to rebuild his life.

The intense scrutiny approaching the anniversary "became too much for him," said a person who had recent contact with him, speaking on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the case.

Mark Madoff's wife, Stephanie, sent her stepfather to the couple's \$6 million (euro4.5 million) apartment after he e-mailed her at Disney World in Florida, where she was vacationing with their 4-year-old daughter. In the messages, he told her he loved her and that someone should check on their 2-year-old child, Nicholas, police said. He left no suicide note.

The person who had recent contact with Madoff said he was struggling to find steady

employment and was upset by coverage of his father's case, including a slew of stories in the past week about investor lawsuits.

"Mark Madoff took his own life today. This is a terrible and unnecessary tragedy," his attorney, Martin Flumenbaum, said in a written statement. "Mark was an innocent victim of his father's monstrous crime who succumbed to two years of unrelenting pressure from false accusations and innuendo."

Mark Madoff and his brother Andrew, who notified authorities their father had confessed to them the day before he was arrested on Dec. 11, 2008, have said they were unaware of his crimes. But they have remained under investigation and been named in the multiple civil lawsuits accusing them of profiting from the scheme.

Another law enforcement official said Saturday that Madoff's arrest was not imminent, and that investigators pursuing possible charges against him, his brother and uncle hadn't contacted him for more than a year. The official wasn't authorized to speak publicly about the case and spoke on condition of anonymity.

A lawyer for Mark's mother, Ruth Madoff, said, "She's heartbroken." The lawyer, Peter Chavkin, had no further comment.

Bernard Madoff, 72, swindled a long list of investors out of billions of dollars. He admitted that he ran his scheme for at least two decades, cheating thousands of individuals, charities, celebrities and institutional investors. Losses are estimated at around \$20 billion (euro15 billion), making it the biggest investment fraud in U.S. history. He is serving a 150-year prison term in North Carolina.

The scandal has resulted in a half dozen arrests of Madoff associates and put a harsh light on members of the family, which has splintered since Madoff's arrest. Both brothers hadn't spoken to their parents since they turned their father in.

The financier's brother, Peter, played a prominent role in the family's company. Mark and Andrew Madoff both worked on a trading desk at the firm, on a side of the business that wasn't directly involved in the Ponzi scheme.

In February, Mark Madoff's wife asked a court to change her last name and the last names of their two children to Morgan, saying her family had gotten threats and was humiliated by the scandal. □



A police line is set up in front of the apartment where the body of Mark Madoff, the son of disgraced financier Bernard Madoff, was found after he hanged himself.

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AP EXCLUSIVE: Pilot duped AMA with fake M.D. claim

By MARILYNN
MARCHIONE,
AP Medical Writer

MILWAUKEE — He seemed like Superman, able to guide jumbo jets through perilous skies and tiny tubes through blocked arteries. As a cardiologist and United Airlines captain, William Hamman taught doctors and pilots ways to keep hearts and planes from crashing.

He shared millions in grants, had university and hospital posts, and bragged of work for prestigious medical groups. An Associated Press story featured him leading a teamwork training session at an American College of Cardiology convention last spring. But it turns out Hamman isn't a cardiologist or even a doctor. The AP found he had no medical residency, fellowship, doctoral degree or the 15 years of clinical experience he claimed. He attended medical school for a few years but withdrew and didn't graduate.

His pilot qualifications do not appear to be in question — he holds the highest type of license a pilot can have, a Federal

Aviation Administration spokeswoman said. However, United grounded him in August after his medical and doctoral degrees evaporated like contrails of the jets he flew. He resigned in June as an educator and researcher at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Mich., after a credentials check revealed discrepancies, a hospital spokeswoman said.

Doctors who worked with the 58-year-old pilot are stunned, not just at the ruse and how long it lasted, but also because many of them valued his work and were sad to see it end.

"I was shocked to hear the news," said Dr. W. Douglas Weaver, who was president of the cardiology group when it gave Hamman a training contract for up to \$250,000 plus travel a few years ago. "He was totally dedicated to what he was doing, and there is a real need for team-based education in medicine," said Weaver, a pilot himself from Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit. Even after learning of Hamman's deception, the American Medical Association was going to let

him lead a seminar that had been in the works, altering his biography and switching his title from "Dr." to "Captain" on course materials. It was canceled after top officials found out.

Now, groups that Hamman worked for are red-faced that they hadn't checked out the tall, sandy-haired man who impressed many with his commanding manner and simple insights like not taking your eyes off a patient while talking with other team members about what to do.

"This is Your Captain Speaking: What can we learn about patient safety from the airlines?" is how his training sessions typically were billed. Journals that printed articles listing Hamman with M.D. and Ph.D. degrees are being contacted in case they want to correct the work. Beaumont removed him from a U.S. Department of Defense medical simulation contract that a physician at the hospital had obtained. Doctors who attended Hamman's sessions don't have to worry — the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education will not revoke any education credits they earned. "That just makes the learners more of a victim," said the council's executive director, Dr. Murray Kopelow, adding that this is a first in his 15 years on the job. "Sounds like there's lots of victims



In this March 14, 2010 file photo, William Hamman watches data on a computer as he supervises doctors during a cardiology simulation at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta. Hamman, an airline captain who lives in Michigan, claimed to be a cardiologist and trained other doctors in teamwork. But he never got a medical degree.

(AP Photo/Gregory Smith)

in this case — the learners, the accredited providers, the whole CME system." Hamman did not return several phone calls and e-mails seeking comment. David Nacht, an employment lawyer in Ann Arbor, Mich., acknowledged that his client did not have the medical

and doctoral degrees he had claimed from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in the 1980s.

"It's Mr. Hamman's desire that he clear up any misconceptions about his background that he has caused. He wants to be completely straightforward about it," Nacht said. □

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Tax cuts worry SS advocates

By **STEPHEN OHLEMACHER,**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama's plan to cut payroll taxes for a year would provide big savings for many workers, but makes Social Security advocates nervous that it could jeopardize the retirement program's finances. The plan is part of a package of tax cuts and extended unemployment benefits that Obama negotiated with Senate Republican leaders. It would cut workers' share of Social Security taxes by nearly one-third for 2011. Workers making \$50,000 in wages would get a \$1,000 tax cut; those making \$100,000 would get a \$2,000 tax cut.

The government would borrow about \$112 billion to make Social Security whole. Advocates and some lawmakers worry that relying on borrowed money to fund Social Security could eventually force it to compete with other federal programs for scarce dollars, leading to cuts. Social Security taxes "ought to be held sacrosanct," said Rep. Earl Pomeroy, D-N.D., chairman of the House Ways and Means subcommittee on Social Security.

"When you start to signal that

the (Social Security) tax levels are negotiable, you end up in long-term trouble, I think, in terms of making absolutely certain that the entitlement funding streams are secure," Pomeroy said.

Social Security is funded by a 6.2 percent payroll tax on the first \$106,800 earned by a worker. The tax is matched by employers. The package negotiated by Obama would reduce the tax paid by workers to 4.2 percent for 2011. Employer rates would stay unchanged.

Obama administration officials say that a payroll tax cut is an efficient way to stimulate the economy by immediately increasing take home pay for about 155 million workers. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office agrees, and many business groups and Republicans support it.

"What came out of the compromise was the idea of the payroll tax holiday, which, frankly, a huge number of economists and other experts had been talking about over the last two years with a lot of support in both political parties," said Larry Summers, Obama's chief economic adviser.

The United Auto Workers

endorsed the deal, saying, "Working families will likely spend this money in their local communities, creating jobs and stimulating overall growth."

The payroll tax cut is part of a larger package negotiated by Obama and GOP lawmakers to extend a sweeping array of Bush era tax cuts that expire at the end of the month. Some Democratic lawmakers have balked at the plan, saying it is tilted too much in favor of the rich. The payroll tax cut would provide relief to any worker earning a wage. It would replace Obama's Making Work Pay tax credit, which has provided modest increases in most workers' paychecks for the past two years.

The payroll tax credit would be more generous to individuals making more than \$20,000 and married couples making more than \$40,000. For those making less, the payroll tax cut would be less than the Making Work Pay credit.

Making Work Pay, which expires at the end of the year, gives workers a tax credit of 6.2 percent of their wages, but it is capped at \$400 for individuals and \$800 for couples. The credit is phased out for individuals making more than \$75,000 and couples



FILE - This Feb. 15, 2010 file photo shows House Social Security subcommittee Chairman Rep. Earl Pomeroy, D-N.D., in Sarajevo. President Barack Obama's announced plan to cut payroll taxes for a year would provide big savings for many workers, but has Social Security advocates nervous it could jeopardize the massive retirement program's finances.

(AP Photo/Amel Emric, File)

making more than \$150,000. A worker would have to make \$20,000 in wages for the payroll tax cut to equal the \$400 Making Work Pay tax credit; couples would have to make \$40,000.

At the wealthy end of the pay scale, workers making \$106,800 — the maximum amount of wages subject to Social Security taxes — would see their payroll taxes reduced by \$2,136. That worker's spouse could also get a payroll tax cut of up to \$2,136, if he or she makes at least \$106,800. The proposal requires the Treasury Department to

replenish Social Security with other government funds, which would have to be borrowed.

"The payroll tax cut has absolutely no effect on the solvency of Social Security," said White House economic adviser Jason Furman.

Social Security has accumulated a \$2.5 trillion trust fund since the 1980s. But the government has borrowed that money to pay for other programs. The Treasury Department has issued special bonds to Social Security, guaranteeing the money will be repaid, with interest. □

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Moms, dads of gang kids ordered to parenting class



In this Nov. 13, 2010 photo, Jose and Rosalva Rodriguez listen to instructor Rosaura Fresquez during a class at a high school in Los Angeles for parents of juveniles convicted of gang crimes. The classes are being rolled out in Los Angeles County as part of a new state law that gives judges the option of sending parents for training when their kids are convicted of gang crimes for the first time.

(AP Photo/Thomas Watkins)

By THOMAS WATKINS,
 Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — It's a Saturday morning and a half-dozen adults are sitting in a high school classroom, staring at grim photos of sickly drug addicts and hearing about the deadly consequences of gang crime. They'd rather not be here, but a judge made them come.

The moms and dads were ordered to attend the class under a new California law giving judges the option of sending parents for training when their kids are convicted of gang crimes for the first time.

Assemblyman Tony Mendoza, the lawmaker behind the Parent Accountability Act, said it is the first state law to give judges the power to order parents of gang members to school, though other court-mandated classes exist at the local level.

"A lot of parents do not know how to handle teenagers," Mendoza said. "Now more than ever, parents need a guide."

The new law went into effect in January and eventually will be in place across California. Budget cuts in Sacramento

meant implementation of the classes was delayed and only in the past month or so have they been rolled out on a limited basis in the Los Angeles Unified School District.

Several of those first classes were canceled due to low attendance, something organizers blamed on judges' ignorance of the new law. But the sputtering start also speaks to the difficulties of trying to engage parents who may be too busy or apathetic to take a more active role in their kids' lives.

Authorities say Los Angeles County has about 80,000 gang members, though those estimates vary. Parents in gang neighborhoods often struggle to make ends meet and find themselves working more than one job. The long hours mean they can't spend much time with their kids and some youngsters say they are tempted into gang life by a sense of companionship missing from their own family. "The most difficult thing is to have control of the kids," said Socorro Gonzalez, a housekeeper who was ordered to a recent class after her son, a member of the San Fer gang,

got into trouble. "When I come home, I don't know what they have been up to."

At the class last month with six parents, an instructor speaking in Spanish flashed images of drug paraphernalia and showed pictures of addicts before and after they acquired their habit. At a later session, another instructor outlined classic warning signs of gang involvement — tattoos, secretive behavior, sudden changes in musical tastes and the use of gang hand signals. Jose and Rosalva Rodriguez attended one of the first classes, which was held on two consecutive Saturdays at a high school in the San Fernando Valley. Their 16-year-old son had been accused of spraying graffiti when police arrested him at a party attended by gang members.

In addition to sentencing him to one year's probation, community service and counseling, the judge ordered the parents to attend the class,

where they heard about tough legal penalties levied against gang members and how they could get more involved in their kids' lives.

"It was very important," Jose Rodriguez said after driving an hour from Lancaster, a sprawling city in the high desert north of Los Angeles. "I'm going to speak to him, listen to him and give him advice."

The 48-year-old baker said he learned how to spot the warning signs of gang involvement, including if his son was carrying markers that can be used for gang graffiti. Eventually, the classes will include the family members of victims of gang crime speaking to parents about their ordeals.

"There is nothing more moving than someone sitting in front of you, telling you how they felt when they heard the gunshots or their son or daughter was killed," Mendoza said.

The classes are supposed to

be self funding and parents will eventually pay \$20 or so a class, but the fee is being waived for now to draw more participants.

If parents fail to attend, they could be held in contempt of court. Judges are likely to lenient initially because only four high schools are offering the classes, making it impractical for parents without cars to attend.

Olu Orange, an adjunct professor at the University of Southern California's political science department, said he was troubled by the possibility of parents being held in contempt for an offense committed by their child and adjudicated by a juvenile judge and not a jury.

"The prospect of parents being subject to criminal penalties for violating a court order that is imposed on them as part of a non-jury process scares me," Orange said.

The law was inspired by Mendoza's own brush with gang life. □



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Regulations change for Trademarks



ORANJESTAD - After the dissolution of the Netherland Antilles, all trademarks that have been processed before the 10th of October 2010 will continue to be under the jurisdiction of Curacao and Saint Maarten until their date of expiration. At the time of expiration, trademark owners of these marks may choose to renew the marks under the Curacao or Saint Maarten or both islands. Services for transferring of trademarks, change of address, change of name and license and existing marks should from now on be processed in Curacao and Saint Maarten. The Islands of Bonaire, Saba and St. Eustatius are what now consist of the Caribbean Netherlands. The registration process in this region, even when applied for separately, is regulated by the Trademark Office of Benelux and may be applied for with Marcaria.com. On October 10, 2010, the group of 5 islands known as the Netherlands Antilles was dissolved and Curaçao and St. Maarten became autonomous countries (still under the Dutch crown), while Saba, St. Eustatius and Bonaire were rezoned as Dutch principalities. Trademark registrations often mirror evolving consumer tastes as companies work to strengthen their market position. In this case, the millionth trademark registration is a green brand, reflecting a growing environmental awareness among the general public and the business community. □

Boa Hunters save the birds of Aruba

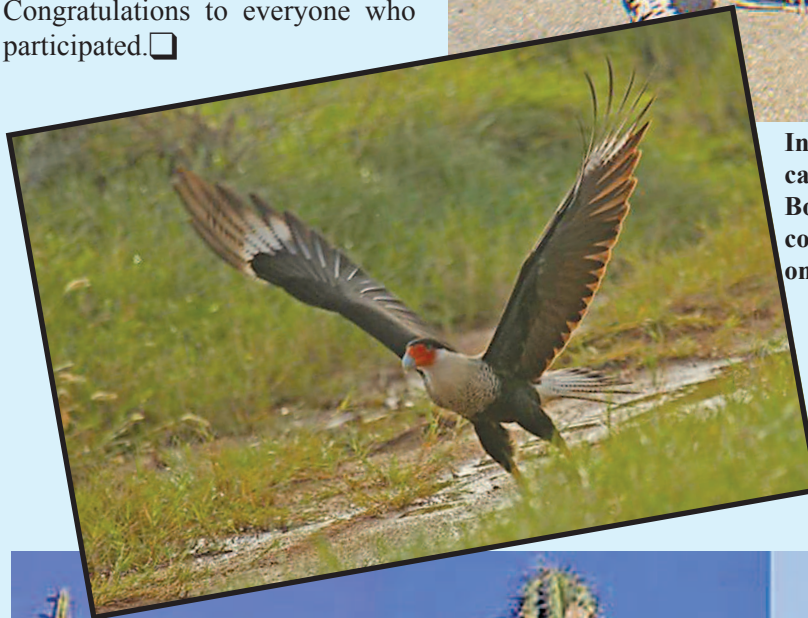
ORANJESTAD - Yesterday, December 12th, more than 120 volunteers participated in the First National Boa Sweep, which took place at three locations simultaneously! The count at the Veterinary Department at 11:30 this morning was 11 Boa's. This event was a real success since these volunteers had the weather against them. The greatest part of them was soaked to the bones and yet they went on all the way in an attempt to help save Aruba's Fauna in general, and our Shoco's, Prikichi's, Patrishi's, Troupials in particular!! Aruba Birdlife Conservation applauds everyone's determination and love for Aruba!!

In the picture families Wegereef and Jansen also delivered their catch at the veterinary department. This was a female and the Boa expert, Diego Marquez, informed us that such a size Boa constrictor could reproduce up to 40 young ones. So, with this one catch alone, a lot of fauna damage is prevented. Congratulations to everyone who participated. □



In the picture families Wegereef and Jansen also delivered their catch at the veterinary department. This was a female and the Boa expert, Diego Marquez, informed us that such a size Boa constrictor could reproduce up to 40 young ones. So, with this one catch alone, a lot of fauna damage is prevented.

~ Photo by Greg Peterson



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Photo by Greg Peterson





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Kanzis Keith celebrates 5th Birthday



NOORD - This past Monday, the shining star Kanzis Keith enjoyed an afternoon of bowling and cake the day before at Church with her family and friends. Kanzis is the daughter of Steve and Jeanette Keith and the little sister of Kyara Keith. Kanzis is a kindergarten student in the Schakel and enjoys dancing and singing and a whole lot of fun.

Congratulations to Kanzis and her family from Aruba Today. □



Chocolat is on the look-out for friends and family



ORANJESTAD - We would like to introduce Chocolat to you, one of the donkeys that is cared for by the Aruban Donkey Foundation. He owes his name to his coloring, not to his addiction to chocolates. This donkey is brown all over, from back to front; this is quite extraordinary, as there are just three brown donkeys at the sanctuary. All of these bear names that are referring to food: Brownie and Kroket. We are not sure when this lovely brown donkey was born, but we believe it to have been around 2002. He has been living at the sanctuary for many years now; he just jumped the fence one day and he has stayed. He is a tough guy and leader of a group of donkeys. Together with other, less dominant, males he maintains order in the 100-donkey strong enclave. Chocolat has a chip, just like the other donkeys. This way he can be recognized. The

donkeys at the sanctuary are well cared for: they get their food and drink and when they are sick the vet is called. Yes, they are expensive customers. The volunteers try to cover the cost through organizing all kinds of activities and by selling nice souvenirs in the store. Fortunately there are visitors who adopt a donkey now and then, who donate money or who buy something in the store. They help keep the sanctuary afloat that way. The volunteers are now looking for people who wish to adopt Chocolat. Chocolat will stay there, of course; the only thing that is needed is AWG. 30,-- per month pays for his keep. In this way you help support this wonderful donkey, who has distinct qualities as a leader, as well as the sanctuary. You will receive a nice document and a super T-shirt. And if you like, your name and photo will be posted on our website. Please call the donkey foundation at 595-2933 and become Chocolat's new family; you can also register as an adoptive parent via our website www.arubadonkey.org or deposit a donation on our Aruba Bank account 40.03.025. □

Sole Mare celebrates the season at Amazonia Churrascaria



PALM BEACH – Amazonia Churrascaria stayed open late this week to help celebrate Christmas and the end of a successful year with their colleagues of Sole Mare Ristorante Italiano.

Owner Mr. Juan Bocache invited his managers, supervisors and staff members to enjoy a sumptuous interactive meal at Amazonia Churrascaria, after hours, at the end of a busy Wednesday night.

The Italian crew enjoyed the food at Amazonia Churrascaria, sampling the Brazilian-style feast with great appreciation. Sole Mare Manager Michelle remarked that Sole Mare Ristorante Italiano and Amazonia



Churrascaria maintain a great relationship by virtue of being neighbors on Palm Beach, and that the attention to detail and warm hospitality complemented the superb quality of the food and the festive ambiance. □



Memorable Night in White on Renaissance Private Island



Thursday Night Party Manager Paul Gielen, followed by a night out on the town. Ariana Santiago Gonzalez, Sale Manager and Resort

welcomed the dignitaries as they came off the boats to enjoy an evening under the stars, toes in the sand. □



ORANJESTAD – A select group of travel professionals were invited to attend a Destination Review, organized by the Aruba Convention Bureau for North America.

Invitees, all top meeting planners from North American with the ability to book group business for the island, are here experiencing the resorts and the special attractions as well as the different amenities and services Aruba can offer, from December 9th to 13th. The Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino showcased its best in quality service and outstanding food & beverage by creating a unique event with exceptional features at Renaissance Private Island. The dignitaries enjoyed a site inspection & an interactive welcome reception with live music and a gourmet dinner buffer, at the White on



The Casino at The Radisson pays out \$10.000 and \$12.000



Palm Beach – The Casino at the Radisson was honored to present Mr. & Mrs. Casserly with the first \$10,000 jackpot of the season. Joseph and Sarah are honeymooners at the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa, and will surely put their cash prize to good use !! The Casino also introduced its second large jackpot in just two days with another lucky winner, Mr. Pinkus Vaysberg, who is vacationing next door at the Occidental Grand. Vaysberg won \$12,000 when he played one of the casino's \$5 slot machines.

which recently announced a management contract for the casino at the Radisson Aruba Resort, Casino & Spa, recently took over the lively gaming floor, which over night filled with patrons from the resort and from neighboring hotels. The elegant 14,000 square foot facility is centrally located within the hotel and operates with approximately 250 slot machines, 15 table games, also featuring a cozy bar, showing sports all day. Century Casinos, Inc. is an international casino entertainment company that owns and operates

Century Casino & Hotels in Cripple Creek and Central City, Colorado, and in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada and the Century Casino in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. The Company also operates casinos aboard eleven luxury cruise vessels (Silver Cloud, Regatta, Insignia, Nautica,



Mein Schiff, Wind Surf, Wind Star, Wind Spirit, Seven Seas Voyager, Seven Seas Mariner, Seven Seas Navigator) and signed contracts for casinos on three additional ships (Marina, Riviera and TUI Mein Schiff II) that are expected to start operations soon. Through its Austrian subsidiary, Century Casinos Europe GmbH, the Company holds a 33.3% ownership

interest in Casinos Poland Ltd., the owner and operator of seven full casinos in Poland. Century Casinos, Inc. continues to pursue other international projects in various stages of development, and now also calls Aruba home. Congratulations on behalf of everyone at the resort and at the casino, gearing up for the holidays, eager to welcome visitors and locals for slot and table play. □

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STAHLER.
THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH. 2010.



Proud to serve: We're soldiers, not victims

By Thomas W. Young

Alexandria, Va. – Imagine the following scenarios:

1. You're a sergeant riding shotgun with an Army convoy in Iraq. An improvised explosive device – IED – explodes next to your vehicle and showers you with sand, rocks, and flames. Seriously burned, you pull yourself from the damaged gun truck and wonder what will happen next.
2. You're a crew member of a C-5 Galaxy lifting off from Baghdad International. You hear a loud bang and see warning lights: GENERATOR OUT, LOW PRESSURE ... FIRE. A surface-to-air missile has destroyed one of your engines.
3. You're a young airman billeted at Khobar Towers, Saudi Arabia. As you take a shower, you hear a security policeman running down the hall shouting, "Get out! Get out!" That's because he's spotted a truck bomb. A tremendous blast tears open the building and kills 19 of your comrades. Survivors help carry the dead to a makeshift morgue in the chow hall.

RELATED: Thank you, 1st Lt. Shaun Blue, for a life of integrity and service

America's warrior class Most Americans will never face situations like this. Less than 1 percent of the US population has served in Iraq or Afghanistan. The all-volunteer military has given us a motivated, highly professional fighting force. But it has also created a warrior class distinct from the rest of society.

Perhaps it has to be this way. According to the group Mission: Readiness, which is made up of retired senior military leaders, 75 percent of Americans ages 17 to 24 are unfit for service. Most are physically unfit, and others have criminal records or inadequate education.

Among those who can make the grade, military

service tends to run in families, sometimes for generations. My supervisor in the West Virginia Air National Guard has a great-great-grandfather who earned the Medal of Honor in the Spanish-American War.

I know a pilot who makes mission-related notes in flight on a knee board used by his father in Vietnam. Many of my squadron mates can trace family military history at least back to World War II. Parents wear the uniform alongside sons and daughters.

These family traditions serve the armed forces well, but they keep the burden of war within a narrow group.

Those who self-select into the military have become a tribe apart. Sometimes, people who aren't members of our tribe seem not to know what to think of us.

Things could be worse. Thank goodness veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan usually receive only gratitude from civilians. We seldom, if ever, face the mistreatment heaped upon troops returning from Vietnam. While dining in uniform at restaurants, I've had strangers pay for my meals. That support means more than you know. But occasionally the expressions of support come with a tinge of incomprehension, even pity. "Why did you ever reenlist?" someone once asked me. She was incredulous that anyone who could get out would still choose to serve. Her attitude reflected the way much of society views veterans – as victims.

For understandable journalistic and emotional reasons, media coverage tends to focus on the tragedies. Those stories need telling, but so do some others.

An optimistic approach to service Let's consider our scenarios again. Each one could have served as the opening sequence to a film about a

whacked-out veteran who drinks away his days in existential angst – or worse. But here's what really happened to people who are my friends or mentors in the military:

1. The sergeant wounded by the IED finished his tour and finished his degree. He got an officer's commission and continues to serve as a lieutenant.
2. The C-5 flight engineer helped his crew land the stricken jet safely, though it suffered so much damage it remained grounded for nearly two months. The engineer stayed in the Air Force and continues to fly as an instructor. New crewmen still learn from his experiences and sharpen their skills under his guidance.
3. The young airman at Khobar Towers now serves as a senior noncommissioned officer. He's a father, a leader in his church and community, and one of his unit's most active fliers.

LIST: Sarah Palin's heroes – and antiheroes All three re-upped, knowing they'd go back into harm's way. The danger was no longer an abstraction. But neither were the rewards. No other job would give them the chance to contribute so much, in places where they were needed so badly.

Of course, many war stories have worse endings. That's why it's so important that the public acknowledges the sacrifices of military personnel. But most war stories are retold proudly by veterans who view their military experience as the highlight of their working lives.

In the meantime, the US remains involved in two major combat zones. (To troops in Iraq, the drawdown doesn't happen until they get to leave.) Tomorrow's veterans are training today. Please think of them often. Follow the news. Join us if you can. But do not see us as victims. □

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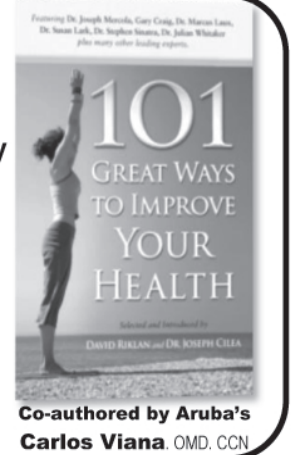
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SWEDES SHOCKED

Continued from Front Page

Experts said the alleged bomber probably didn't succeed in detonating all the explosives and could have caused much greater damage. While police haven't confirmed Saturday's attack was motivated by Islamist views, an audio file sent to Swedish news agency TT shortly before the blast referred to jihad, Sweden's military presence in Afghanistan and a cartoon by a Swedish artist that depicted the Prophet Muhammad as a dog, enraging many Muslims. It hasn't been verified that the speaker is the person who set off the explosive, but police have said they are investigating that possibility. "Now the Islamic state has been created. We now exist here in Europe and in Sweden. We are a reality," the voice said in the file, submitted to The Associated Press by TT. "I don't want to say more about this. Our actions will speak for themselves."

Swedish Prime Minister Fredrik Reinfeldt on Sunday said the attack was "unacceptable" but urged Swedes not to jump to "premature conclusions" that "create tension which paints pictures that are then difficult to change."

"Sweden is an open society ... which has stated a wish that people should be able to have different backgrounds, believe in different in gods ... and live side by side in our open society," Reinfeldt said at a news conference.

Swedes, with a tradition of welcoming immigrants and a culture of transparency, began questioning the veracity of their self-image of being a secure nation after the 1986 murder of Prime Minister Olof Palme. In 2003, the fatal stabbing of Foreign Minister Anna Lindh in a department store was a wake-up call for many.

But there have been no major terrorist strikes.

"We had a terrorist attack in the 1970s from the Rote Armee Frikktion of Germany, but if this is a suicide bomber it is the first time in Sweden," security police spokesman Anders Thornberg told The Associated Press. "It's very serious and it's very tragic that these things have come to Sweden too."

On Sunday, the pedestrian district where the explosions occurred was eerily quiet and

empty for a mid-December weekend.

"We're used to seeing things like this on the news. This was a lot closer to home but it still doesn't feel very tangible," said Eric Osterman, a 26-year-old student.

German tourist Melanie Ziethmann, 34, said she heard the bang of the explosion on Saturday but didn't realize what it was until a friend in Germany contacted her to make sure she was OK.

"We were surprised that this happened in Sweden," Ziethmann said. "It was quite shocking. I thought it was very safe here."

In October, Sweden raised its terror threat alert level from low to elevated because of what police called "a shift in activities" among Swedish-based groups that could be plotting attacks.

Days later, police made several arrests over an alleged bomb plot in the country's second-largest city, Goteborg. The suspects were later released and police said the city was no longer deemed to be under threat.

Magnus Norell, a terrorism



Swedish Prime Minister Fredrik Reinfeldt talks at a press conference Sunday Dec. 12, 2010 in Stockholm, Sweden following Saturday's attack in the city center. Swedish police said Sunday that two explosions in central Stockholm were an act of terrorism, in what appeared to be the first attack in the Nordic country by a suicide bomber. The suspect, who was not named, killed himself and injured two people on a busy shopping street.

Associated Press

expert at the Swedish Defense Research Agency, said it was just a matter of time before Sweden was hit by a terror attack.

"Sweden isn't an isolated island, even if we might think that sometimes," he said. "We have only been lucky so far." Norell said Sweden has the

same problem with worsening radicalization among Islamic groups as other countries, with young men traveling to training camps in countries such as Somalia and Pakistan. "The whole idea is that this is a global war for them and that the target exists everywhere, all over the world," he said. □



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Small climate deals forged outside int'l talks

ARTHUR MAX

Associated Press

CANCUN, Mexico (AP) — Walmart is going green in its Chinese factories. George Soros is exploring investments in the restoration of drained peatlands in Indonesia. Denmark is joining South Korea in a new fund to transform developing economies.

As delegates to the latest U.N. climate talks struggled to come up with a modest pair of global warming accords, governments, businesses and individuals working behind the scenes forged ahead with their own projects to cut emissions.

“Regardless of what happens in these negotiations, we shouldn’t be waiting. We should be doing practical things on the ground,” World Bank President Robert Zoellick said in an interview before the talks wound up Saturday.

Nearly 200 governments have been working for 20 years toward an all-encompassing treaty to constrain human influence on the climate through industrial pollution, vehicles and agriculture.

The Cancun Agreements, adopted to cheers and ovations early Saturday after



People walk past a sand sculpture made by activists of Oxfam, a group of non-governmental organizations, during the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Cancun, Mexico, Friday, Dec. 10, 2010.

two tortuous weeks of talks, created a Green Climate Fund to manage and disburse tens of billions of dollars a year, starting in 2020, for green development in poor countries.

The fund also will help developing nations adapt to climate change that already has occurred, through such methods as shifting to drought-resistant crops or building sea walls against

rising ocean levels and storm surges.

The accords also create a new mechanism for giving green technology to developing states and set guidelines to compensate countries that are preserving their forests.

The ideal global treaty — the one on which governments have not been able to agree during two decades of talks — would set targets and create incentives for countries and industries to reduce emissions of heat-trapping greenhouse gases and invest in green economic growth.

Officials in both the public and private arena have decided not to wait for such a global agreement, instead taking the initiative on their own.

The sidelines of the Cancun conference provided a convenient platform to discuss old projects they were already working on as well as to unveil new ones, most of them valued at just a few million dollars.

There were actually “two summits” in Cancun, said Achim Steiner, head of the U.N. Environment Program, referring to both the official negotiations and project discussions outside the main conference.

“Individually, they may not sound like a lot ... but the reality is, on the ground there

is a tremendous groundswell of activity on climate change,” he told reporters.

While the conference was under way, Zoellick announced a new \$100 million World Bank fund to help countries set up carbon-trading programs.

China, India, Chile and Mexico are among countries that have expressed an interest in drawing on the fund, he told The Associated Press.

“People get lost in the negotiating part of this,” he said.

The fund is an example “of an ongoing innovation that doesn’t depend on treaty text.”

Three miles (seven kilometers) from the climate talks’ principal negotiating venue, Walmart chairman Rob Walton attended a function that addressed using everything from cattle in Brazil to palm oil in Indonesia as sustainable sourcing for the giant retailer founded by his father.

Walmart says it plans to reduce its carbon footprint over five years to what would be the equivalent of taking 3.8 million cars off the road. Much of that will come by reducing the energy used by suppliers in China, where most of its nonfood products come from.

“People are spending less time on the negotiations

and shifting more focus on concrete action,” said Stephen Cochran, vice president of the New York-based nonprofit Environmental Defense Fund, which works with Walmart in China and in the U.S.

That doesn’t mean there isn’t still a need for a global accord, however, Cochran added.

Such an agreement would set common rules and firm up guarantees that green investment pays.

Financier George Soros discussed a private rescue plan for depleted Indonesian peatlands. The former jungle areas, which were cleared for rice paddies or palm oil, release huge amounts of stored carbon as they dry out and burn.

Marcel Silvius of Wetlands International, who accompanied Soros to Indonesia earlier this year, said several billionaires were applying to Jakarta for concessions for degraded land. By blocking drainage channels and allowing the peatlands to re-flood, natural forests may regenerate, and local communities could be enlisted to manage the new growth.

Investors can make returns on carbon credits under the forestry strategy outlined in the Cancun Agreements. But some people, including Soros, see it as philanthropy from which they expect no return, Silvius said. He said 6 million to 7.5 million acres (2.5 million to 3 million hectares) of land, an area the size of the Netherlands, could be restored in Indonesia.

For its part, Denmark announced that it will donate \$15 million over three years to the Global Green Growth Initiative, founded six months ago by South Korea to help countries develop eco-friendly technologies. Seoul kicked in \$30 million, or \$10 million a year.

The fund already has projects in Ethiopia and Cambodia, with more in the pipeline in Indonesia and the Philippines, said Rae-kwon Chung, a director of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. □



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Heavy rains, strong winds batter Middle East

ZEINA KARAM,
Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — Heavy rains and fierce winds pummeled countries across the Middle East over the weekend, sinking a ship off Israel's coast and killing a woman in Lebanon whose car was crushed when a tree fell on it.

The storm brought unusually cold temperatures, below freezing in some spots. It ended weeks of unseasonably warm and dry weather that contributed to dozens of forest fires in Lebanon and helped feed a massive blaze in Israel that destroyed thousands of hectares of forest.

It whipped up sandstorms in Jordan and Egypt, which closed its largest Mediterranean port. In Syria, snow blanketed the streets of Damascus for the first time this winter. Schools sent students home early and children ventured outside to play in the streets.

Syrian authorities closed their main port of Tartous. In Egypt, 12-foot waves forced shut the port of Alexandria — the country's largest — as well as another in the town of Nuweiba along the Red Sea coast of the Sinai Peninsula.

Heavy rains flooded the streets in Beirut and snow forced some road closures in remote mountain towns in Lebanon. A woman died Saturday night when an uprooted tree fell on her car in the northern port city of Tripoli, authorities said. Flights in and out of Beirut's international airport were delayed.

Off the Israeli coast, a Moldovan cargo ship sank in stormy weather about seven miles off the port city of Ashdod, and a Turkish ship was safely towed two miles to shore after sending out distress calls.

An official from Israel's shipping and ports authority, Yigal Maor, said the Moldovan vessel's 11-member crew scrambled onto lifeboats and was rescued by a nearby

Taiwanese ship. The Israeli military said its sailors arrived safely ashore.

The storm briefly disrupted operations at Israel's Ben-Gurion Airport. Spokesman Adar Avisar said two flights — one each from British Airways and Lufthansa — were diverted to Cyprus in the afternoon. By evening, their passengers were on their way to Israel. Departing flights were also delayed for about an hour in the afternoon, Avisar said.

Israel's two main seaports, Haifa and Ashdod, were closed through the day because of high seas and roaring winds.

Elsewhere in Israel, rain and hail pounded the country while strong winds toppled trees and traffic lights, flooding streets and knocking out electricity to hundreds of homes. Local media reported that a pier at the ancient port city of Caesarea collapsed, a breakfront at another beach cracked and towering waves washed over the shore of Eilat, a Red Sea port city.

Police spokesman Micky Rosenfeld said northern Israel was hit hardest by the storm, and that extra police patrols were dispatched to divert traffic because of downed trees. Two police officers were lightly injured when a tree fell on their patrol car, Rosenfeld said.

In the Gaza Strip, strong winds and lashing rains caused cracks in the pier and the breakfront at the harbor local fishermen use. No one was hurt, but civil defense workers and the Gaza maritime police were hauling boats out of the water and moving them and other fishing equipment to safer ground.

Egypt was hit by rain and winds up to 37 miles per hour in Alexandria on the northern Mediterranean coast.

Sandstorms blanketed Cairo for a second day Sunday, choking the air with dust and turning the sky a tepid beige.



A man stands in front of towering water as high waves smash against a wall in the southern port city of Sidon, Lebanon, Sunday, Dec. 12, 2010. Heavy rain and fierce winds pummeled countries across the Middle East early Sunday, killing a woman in Lebanon, sinking a ship off Israel's coast and prompting Egypt to close its largest Mediterranean port.

Associated Press

Doormen and shopkeepers tried in vain to keep the swirling dust at bay, sweeping sidewalks and dusting off parked cars.

Jordan also wrestled with sandstorms kicked up by winds

up to 55 miles per hour, police said. Visibility was severely limited, and authorities closed major highways in the eastern desert linking the country with neighboring Iraq and southern roads leading to the

ancient city of Petra, a major tourist attraction.

A police statement said low visibility caused a 10-car pileup in a district south of the capital Amman, which injured 16 people. □

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By **ARUBA TODAY**

PALM BEACH -- When we say Mediterranean cuisine, we mean the food from the adjacent nation-states sharing the shores of the Mediterranean, embracing many cultures and influenced by varied customs.

At Casa Tua Mediteranee, the menu offers a trip around that sunshiny, lively part of the world, without ever having to buy an airline ticket, starting at the Atlantic and traveling traverse Europe to Turkey, on to the Middle East and North Africa.

We discovered that the chefs choose the best, most delicious dishes from France, Italy, Greece, and Tunisia, and paired them with most famous Middle-Eastern appetizers and salads to present a formidable culinary trip around the Mediterranean Sea, enjoyed in the contemporary indoor dining room which includes a cozy lounge area or on the dining terrace overlooking the action at the new bustling Palm Beach Plaza.

Spanokopitakia, brick oven baked filo pastries filled with Greek cheese and spinach, famous Tzaziki, a yogurt and cucumber dip, and popular Babaganoush and Hummus, with authentic pita bread, are some of

cooking with our Grilled Whole Red Snapper, flavored with herbs de Provence, and our Mussels, taste the way they're served in the port of Marseille. Our thin crust Italian Pizza, needs no introduction, as it has earned a huge following in both the other restaurants, Casa Tua Pizzeria and Casa Tua Barcelona.

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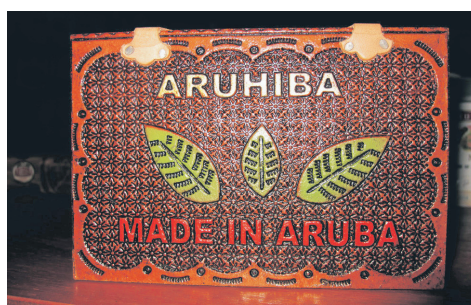
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ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi has always had an interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crop. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The process took ten years. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the molding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. The cigar box is specially designed for the cigars with the logo "Aruhiba". Petrocchi considers Aruhiba a promotion for Aruba through fine quality cigars. The company sells International cigars as well. Buy a gift box of Aruhiba Corona with five



cigars and you will get 1 FREE cigar of \$35. Located at the Historic Dutch Windmill. Open from Monday to Saturday from 9am till 8:30pm. And open on Sunday from 9am to 1pm. At the Tamarijn Hotel open on Monday till Saturday 12pm to 8pm. And on Sunday from 9am to 1pm . Aruhiba is only available in above mentioned stores. Visit our authentic tobacco farm where cigars are handmade.



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Amir Khan, of England, poses for photos after defeating Marcos Maidana, of Argentina in a WBA super lightweight championship boxing match Saturday, Dec. 11, 2010, in Las Vegas.

*Associated Press
Page B8*

Senior wins Australian PGA in playoff

DENNIS PASSA

AP Sports Writer

COOLUM, Australia (AP) — Australia's Peter Senior won the rain-delayed Australian PGA on Monday, beating Geoff Ogilvy with a par on the second hole of a playoff to become the oldest player to win a major professional tournament in Australia.

The 51-year-old Senior, a regular on the Champions Tour, made a 10-foot birdie putt on the 18th hole in regulation for a 1-under 71 to match Ogilvy, the Australian Open winner last week in Sydney, at 12-under 276. Ogilvy finished with a 66.

It was Senior's third Australian PGA title and comes 21 years after his first. He won at Riverside Oaks near Sydney in 1989 and in 2003 at Coolum. Both players parred the 18th hole on the first hole of the playoff, and Ogilvy three-putted for a bogey on the second extra hole to give Senior his third Australian PGA title.

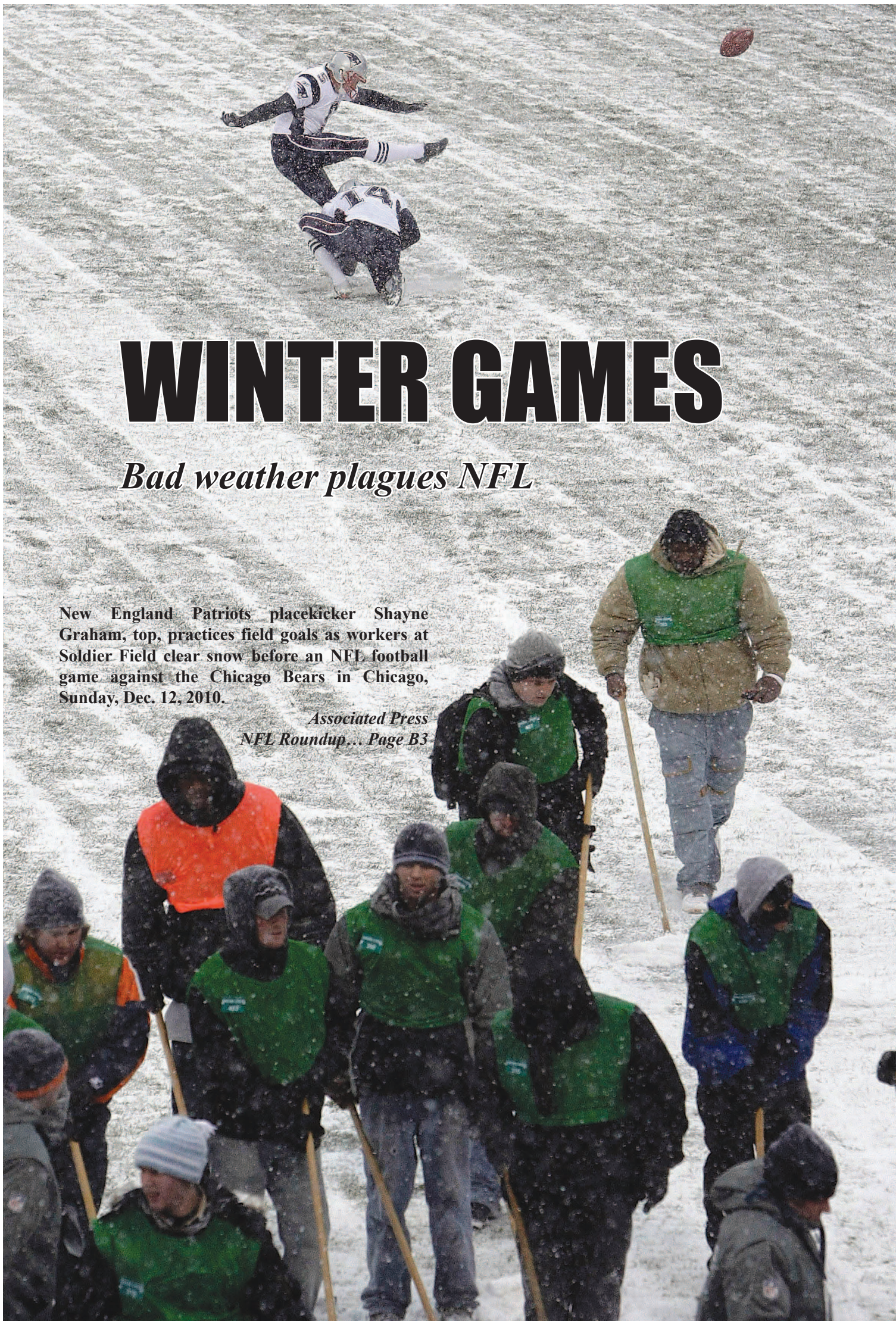
Continued on Next Page

WINTER GAMES

Bad weather plagues NFL

New England Patriots placekicker Shayne Graham, top, practices field goals as workers at Soldier Field clear snow before an NFL football game against the Chicago Bears in Chicago, Sunday, Dec. 12, 2010.

*Associated Press
NFL Roundup... Page B3*





Heather Richardson of the U.S., competes in the women's 1,000 meters event on the way to winning the World Cup speedskating meet on Sunday, Dec. 12, 2010, in Obihiro, northern Japan. Richardson took her second straight victory at the distance Sunday.

Associated Press

Richardson wins at speedskating World Cup

OBIHIRO, Japan (AP) — American Heather Richardson won the women's 1,000 meters at the World Cup speedskating meet on Sunday, her second straight victory at the distance. Richardson, who also won Saturday's 1,000 event, clocked a time of 1 minute, 17.27 seconds to finish 0.50 seconds ahead of Japan's Nao Kodaira. Maki Tsuji, also of Japan, was third in 1:18.29.

The two wins allowed Richardson to move into first place in the World Cup standings with 490 points, 90 ahead of Canada's Christine Nesbitt.

Germany's Samuel Schwarz won the men's 1,000 with a time of 1:09.98, 0.17 seconds ahead of Olympic champion Shani Davis of the United States. Jan Bos of the Netherlands was third in 1:10.17.

Japan's Joji Kato won the men's 500 meters with a time of 34.96 to edge compatriot Keiichiro Nagashima and South Korea's Lee Kyou-hyuk by 0.23 seconds.

Germany's Jenny Wolf claimed the women's 500 race with a time of 38.03 seconds, 0.18 seconds ahead of South Korea's Lee Sang-hwa. China's Yu Jing was third in 38.30. □

Pablo Martin successfully defends Alfred Dunhill title

MALELANE, South Africa (AP) — Pablo Martin successfully defended his Alfred Dunhill Championship title on Sunday as he recovered from a late stutter for a final-round 2-under 70 and a two-shot win.

The Spaniard made a triple-bogey 7 at No. 17, but then birdied the last for an 11-under 277 at Leopard Creek Country Club, two clear of Denmark's Thorbjorn Olesen and South African pair Charl Schwartzel and Anthony Michael.

Martin had surged ahead with an eagle-birdie start, and opened a five-shot lead through 11 holes following two more birdies on Nos. 7 and 9. With a three-shot lead on the tee at No. 17, the disastrous 7 then cut his advantage over playing partner Michael to one stroke with one hole to play.

But the 24-year-old defending champion recovered to send his second on the par-5 No. 18 to the middle of the green, and Michael found the water with his approach, after pulling his tee shot left, to end his chances.

Martin finished with a birdie four for successive victories at the European Tour's season-opening

tournament, winning a \$210,000 check. He is the first winner on the 2010-11 Race to Dubai and the first player to retain a European Tour title since Padraig Harrington won a second straight British Open in 2008.

"I played really well for nine holes, then I got myself into trouble," Martin said. "It was a good start and it gave me a little bit of a cushion, and I needed it."

"I was able to hit a couple of good shots coming in, especially the one on 18. On 17 I made a big mess but I was really lucky that everything went well."

Newcomer Michael, 25, had led since Thursday afternoon at Leopard Creek but had two bogeys and a double-bogey Sunday and couldn't match the attacking strokeplay of Martin.

Michael made a 15-foot putt for par on No. 18 to make sure of his share of second, but will have to wait for his first tournament win as a professional. Michael's final-round 73 — his worst of the tournament — dropped him to 9 under alongside Olesen and the No. 39-ranked Schwartzel. □



Australia's Peter Senior holds up the Kirkwood trophy after winning the Australian PGA golf championship held at the Hyatt Regency, in Coolumb, Australia, Monday, Dec. 13, 2010.

Associated Press

SENIOR

Continued from Page B1

"What a great way to finish the year," Senior said. "Geoff hit a pretty indifferent iron shot into 18, and we all know how difficult it is to get down from that area. But I would have rather made my (birdie) putt instead of Geoff three-putting, but that's what happens."

Ogilvy said he was disappointed with the finish but not with his play overall in the past two weeks.

"That's the best way I've finished a year in a long time," Ogilvy said. "But to be honest, I never really felt that I was in this tournament until Sunday. And I never thought my 12 under would hold up for a playoff."

Ogilvy had to wait at least an hour — "I hit a lot of balls on the range" — between his finish and Senior completing his round in the final pairing. Twenty-four players finished the round Monday after heavy

rain delayed play Sunday.

Australians Nick O'Hern (69), Peter Fowler (71) and Andre Stolz (71) tied for third at 11 under. Stolz bogeyed the 18th after hitting his tee shot into the water.

American Bobby Gates, who led by a stroke after the third round, bogeyed two of his final nine holes Monday and finished with a 74, leaving him two strokes out of the playoff.

Ogilvy resumed play Monday on the 14th hole, and birdied that hole and No. 16. Senior, ahead by one when play resumed, bogeyed his first hole of the day — the 10th — after his tee shot in pouring rain Sunday left him in the trees.

Defending champion Robert Allenby finished four strokes back after a 70.

Gates, playing the Coolumb course for the first time, tried to be diplomatic Sunday when play was called despite a tough officiating decision that had forced him to hit an awkward shot out of a bunker that was nearly flooded by rain. He ended up bogeying the hole.

"I've never played where it's gotten to this point before, but I understand they want to try to get it in," Gates said. □

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Bad weather wreaks havoc on NFL's Week 14

By BARRY WILNER

AP Pro Football

Snow, wind, ice, rain:
December in the NFL.

Not even indoor games are
safe.

Weather has played havoc
with the NFL's Week 14
schedule, with the Giants' game at Minnesota already postponed from Sunday to Monday night and moved to Detroit. New England's game at Chicago's Soldier Field was threatened by whiteout conditions and the field constantly needed shoveling.

The Giants never made it to Minneapolis, stranded in Kansas City after a blizzard hit the Twin Cities, causing the Metrodome roof to collapse for the fourth time, but the first time since 1983. Heavy snows also caused the previous failures.

"There were no injuries, which we're thankful for," said Bill Lester, executive director of the Metropolitan Sports Facilities Commission.

With the switch of the game to Ford Field, where the Lions were playing the Packers on Sunday afternoon, the NFL said fans with tickets to that game could use their ticket for a free admission to Giants-Vikings, with no reserved seating.

Makes one wonder if Packers fans who traveled to Detroit would stick around an extra day to boo Brett Favre — presuming

he is recovered from a right shoulder injury enough to keep his record consecutive starts streak going.

The league also said free general admission tickets for other fans who want to watch the Giants and Vikings will be available in Detroit.

"We're going to work to make this as accommodating of a game for both teams, but particularly the Vikings, since it is their home game that is being lost," Lions President Tom Lewand said.

Earlier this year, three games were delayed because of severe weather: the season opener of Denver at Jacksonville, 33 minutes due to lightning over the stadium; the next night's Baltimore at New York Jets game, delayed 15 minutes by lightning; and Minnesota at the Jets on Oct. 10, delayed 45 minutes due to lightning over the stadium.

Games that have been moved to another city include the Oct. 22, 1989 meeting between New England and San Francisco that was switched from Candlestick Park to Stanford Stadium in Palo Alto, Calif., due to the Bay Area earthquake; a Monday nighter on Oct. 27, 2003 switched from San Diego to Sun Devil Stadium in Tempe, Ariz., due to Southern California wildfires; and the Saints' entire 2005 home schedule

because of Hurricane Katrina.

The problems in Chicago were high winds that swirled around the snow. Grounds crew members shoveled off the yard lines early in the game. The stands were nearly full, however, for the matchup of first-place teams, a game that quickly turned into a rout as the Patriots took a big lead.

Temperature 90 minutes before kickoff was 29 degrees, with winds at 34 mph gusting to 53. The forecast called for snow with temperatures dropping into the low to mid-20s and the winds at 30 mph, with 50 mph gusts and poor visibility.

Rain up and down the Eastern seaboard hurt attendance in Jacksonville, Landover, Md., and Orchard Park, N.Y., for early games. Ralph Wilson Stadium in Orchard Park was about one-third full for the kickoff of the Bills and Browns. The Buccaneers-Redskins game also was played before lots of empty seats, as were Raiders-Jaguars in Jacksonville, and Falcons-Panthers in Charlotte, N.C. None of those matchups is particularly appealing, but rainy weather was a factor everywhere. The Redskins announced an attendance of 66,124, lowest at FedEx Field since a game in January 2002.

At the New Jersey Meadowlands, the wet




Snow falls into the field from a hole in the collapsed roof of the Metrodome in Minneapolis Sunday, Dec. 12, 2010. The inflatable roof of the Metrodome collapsed Sunday after a snowstorm that dumped 17 inches on Minneapolis. No one was hurt, but the roof failure sent the NFL scrambling to find a new venue for the Vikings' game against the New York Giants.


Associated Press

stuff wasn't frozen, but heavy rain poured down in the second quarter, just as Santonio Holmes was dropping a sure touchdown pass in the end zone. There were four turnovers in the sloppy first half.

The folks in San Diego heading to the Chiefs-Chargers game might have chuckled at it all. It was hot and sunny, with temperatures around 80 degrees. □



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NFL Roundup

Brady, Patriots pound Bears 36-7 in the snow



Arizona Cardinals' Jay Feely (4) celebrates his touchdown run after faking a field goal during the second quarter of an NFL football game against the Denver Broncos Sunday, Dec. 12, 2010 in Glendale, Ariz.

Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Tom Brady threw for 369 yards and two touchdowns as the New England Patriots locked up their eighth playoff berth in 10 years with a 36-7 pounding of the Chicago Bears on a snowy, blustery, bone-chilling Sunday. The win was the fifth straight for the Patriots (11-2), and this one was no less impressive than their 45-3 rout of the New York Jets on Monday night.

Brady completed 27 of 40 passes and went without an interception for the eighth straight game.

Lions 7, Packers 3

At Detroit, Drew Stanton threw a 13-yard touchdown pass to Will Heller midway through the fourth quarter as Green Bay couldn't come back without an injured Aaron Rodgers in Detroit's win.

Detroit (3-10) snapped a five-game losing streak and a 19-game skid against the NFC North, the NFL's worst slump within a division since the merger four decades ago.

Jaguars 38, Raiders 31

At Jacksonville, Florida, David Garrard threw three touchdown

passes, and Maurice Jones-Drew and Rashad Jennings each topped 100 yards rushing as Jacksonville beat Oakland.

The Jaguars overcame a 10-point deficit to win for the fifth time in the last six games, setting up a critical AFC South game at Indianapolis next week. Buccaneers 17, Redskins 16

At Landover, Maryland, Santana Moss' 6-yard touchdown catch put Washington within a point, but Nick Sundberg's slightly high snap on a wet field went through holder Hunter Smith's hands.

The Buccaneers improved to 8-5 and broke a two-game losing streak. It was also the fifth time this season Josh Freeman has won a game with a fourth-quarter comeback. He hit Kellen Winslow for a 41-yard scoring pass with 3:47 to play.

Steelers 23, Bengals 7

At Pittsburgh, Troy Polamalu and LaMarr Woodley returned interceptions by Carson Palmer for touchdowns as Cincinnati dropped a franchise record 10th straight game.

The Steelers (10-3) couldn't get into the end zone on offense despite dominating time of possession — a 9 1/2-minute drive produced no points — but it didn't matter as they closed in on a playoff spot by playing well enough to beat the Bengals (2-11).

Bills 13, Browns 6

At Orchard Park, New York, Ryan Fitzpatrick threw an 11-yard touchdown pass to David Nelson and Leodis McKelvin made a late interception as Buffalo downed Cleveland.

Rian Lindell hit field goals of 30 and 19 yards to help the Bills (3-11) snap a three-game losing streak against Cleveland.

Falcons 31, Panthers 10

At Charlotte, North Carolina, Michael Turner ran for 112 yards and three touchdowns, and Matt Ryan threw for another as Atlanta held onto the best record in the National Football Conference.

The Falcons (11-2) built a 17-0 halftime lead, survived a brief hiccup to start the third quarter, and cruised to their seventh straight win. John Abraham and Kroy Biermann each had two sacks as the Falcons became the latest team to shut down the NFL's worst offense.

49ers 40, Seahawks 21

At San Francisco, Alex Smith threw for 255 yards and three touchdowns in a triumphant return to the starting lineup following a five-game absence as San Francisco improved its playoff hopes.

The Niners muddled up the ugly West race even more with a surprisingly lopsided win.

San Francisco (5-8) moved within a game of division leaders Seattle (6-7) and St. Louis. The 49ers looked much more like the team that was predicted to win the division after an unbeaten preseason.

Dolphins 10, Jets 6

At East Rutherford, New Jersey, the Miami Dolphins turned two early turnovers into their only points in winning at the rainy Meadowlands.

Much of the game was played in a downpour, which made for inept offense in the sloppy conditions.

The Dolphins gained 132 yards, with Chad Henne passing for only 55, yet improved to 7-6. □

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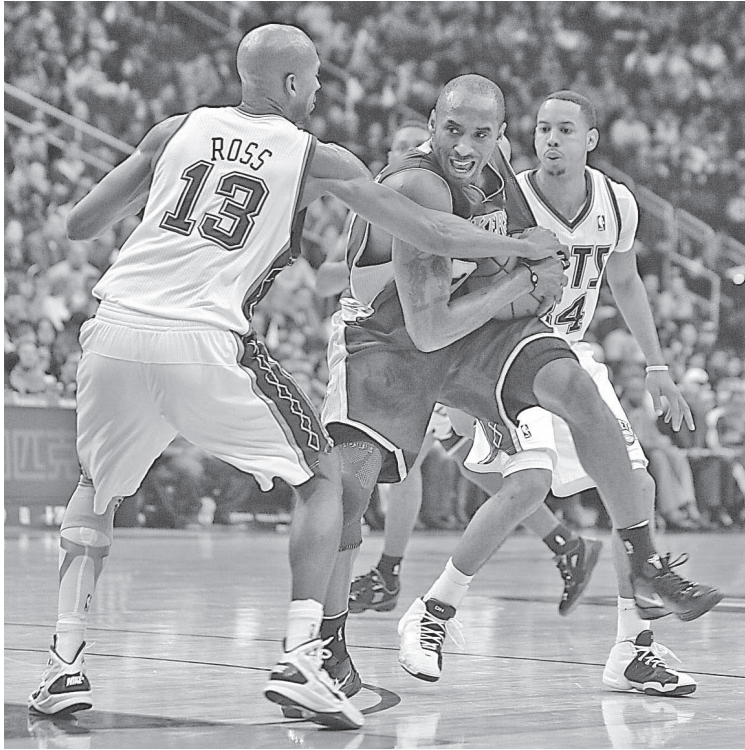
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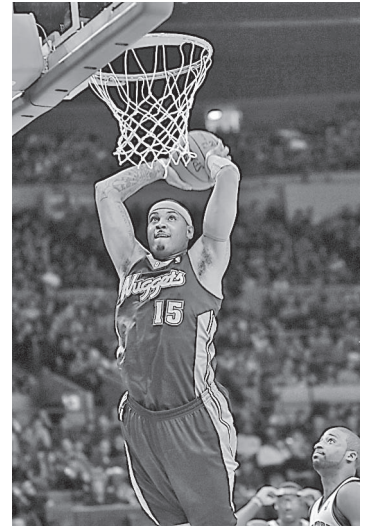
By TOM CANAVAN
AP Sports Writer
NEWARK, N.J. — Kobe Bryant scored 25 of his 32 points in the second half and had two big assists in a late eight-point run that led the Los Angeles Lakers to a 99-92 victory over the New Jersey Nets on Sunday. Lamar Odom had five of his 22 points in the late spurt and Pau Gasol had the other three in capping a 15-point, 11-rebound effort

that led the Lakers to their sixth straight win over New Jersey. Brook Lopez had 25 points and nine rebounds for the Nets, who have lost seven straight and 9 of 11. Devin Harris added 16 points and 10 assists. Gasol broke an 87-all tie, hitting the second of two free throws with 2:28 to play. After Harris missed a drive, Bryant took advantage of

the Nets' double-teaming him and made them pay with his playmaking. He hit Gasol coming down the middle of the lane for a layup and a 90-87 lead with 1:48 to play. Harris again failed to capitalize inside on the other end of the court and Bryant made a short cross-court pass to Odom for another layup and a 92-87 lead with 1:02 left. Odom closed out the run with a 3-pointer from the top of the key off a nice pass by Derek Fisher. New Jersey never got close again. The Lakers led most of the game but the Nets closed the gap to two points at the end of the third quarter. They eventually took the lead at 78-77 on two free throws by Lopez with 4:45 to play. Neither team led by more than three points until the very end with Harris forging the last tie at 87 with a floater in the lane with 2:56 to go. □

Anthony wants extension, reportedly in New York

NEW YORK — Carmelo Anthony wants his money, even if he's not saying where he wants it. Anthony made clear Sunday the importance of a contract extension, which he's thus far refused to sign with the Denver Nuggets. He also said he doesn't think the Nuggets would trade him somewhere he wouldn't accept one. After the Nuggets' 129-125 loss to the Knicks, the team Anthony reportedly wants to play for, he was asked the importance of getting an extension before the collective bargaining agreement expires next summer. The NBA wants major salary cuts in the next deal. "Whatever decision that I make, that's going to be the first thing that gets done," Anthony said. ESPN.com reported later Sunday that Anthony would only accept a long-term extension if it came with a trade to the Knicks. The Nuggets offered him one worth about \$65 million over three years during the summer, but he has said he wanted to keep his options open. He can become a free agent next summer, but Denver would likely attempt to trade him before rather than risk losing him for nothing. Denver was close to a four-



Denver Nuggets' Carmelo Anthony dunks the ball in the second half of the NBA basketball game against the New York Knicks in New York, Sunday, Dec. 12, 2010. The Knicks beat the Nuggets 129-125.

Associated Press

team deal in the preseason that would have sent Anthony to New Jersey, but it fell apart. Anthony can squash many trades by informing teams he would not take an extension with them. Many clubs would refuse to give up the pieces necessary to acquire the All-Star without a guarantee he would be part of their future. But Anthony doesn't believe Denver would try to send him somewhere he didn't want to go. "I don't think that will happen," he said. □



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late show: 11:00	
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Aruba TODAY

Golden hired as Hurricanes coach

By TIM REYNOLDS

AP Sports Writer

CORAL GABLES, Fla. — Al Golden led a turnaround at Temple. He now has a chance to engineer another at Miami. Golden was hired as the Hurricanes' coach Sunday. He replaces Randy Shannon, fired Nov. 27 after Miami completed a 7-5 regular season and fell to 28-22 in his four seasons at his alma mater. Terms of Golden's contract were not disclosed, but he was expected to receive at least a four-year deal that could be worth nearly \$8 million. He'll hold a news conference Monday.

"From the beginning of this process, one candidate stood above the rest as the right fit," athletic director Kirby Hocutt said in a statement. "We are proud to welcome Al Golden to the U. His desire, leadership, communications skills and preparedness stood above the rest, and he is the right man to meet the championship expectations of

this program."

Hocutt had a list of about 10 names of those under consideration during the process, and Golden became the favorite after interviewing for the job in New York early last week.

Hocutt said when the process began he would take as much "time as necessary" to find the right coach, and over the weekend, the decision was made to hone in on Golden — who has been a candidate for several other high-level jobs in recent years, including UCLA and Tennessee.

He was also believed to be a candidate for the current opening at Pitt.

Golden's work at Temple was nothing short of remarkable.

Temple's departing senior class became the school's first in nearly 30 years to leave the Owls with a winning record.

The Owls went 9-4 last season, losing in what was known as the EagleBank Bowl, then went 8-4 this year — only to be snubbed for a postseason

bid.

Temple went 3-31 in the three seasons before Golden arrived; the Owls were 1-11 in his first season there, then won 26 games over the past four years.

The 41-year-old Golden played at Penn State under Joe Paterno, spent a brief time in the NFL with the New England Patriots, then began his coaching career. He knows the Atlantic Coast Conference, having spent time as an assistant at both Virginia and Boston College, and was once the youngest defensive coordinator in major college football.

Golden is the 21st coach in Miami history, and takes over in much the same manner in which Shannon did four years ago — with the Hurricanes seeking a return to national relevance.

Miami hasn't played in the Bowl Championship Series since the 2003 season, and has lost 16 of its last 21 games going back to 2005



This file photo taken Dec. 26, 2009, shows Temple head coach Al Golden in Washington.

Associated Press

against ranked opponents. The Hurricanes thought moving to the Atlantic Coast Conference seven years ago would enhance their chances to remain among the nation's elite; they have yet to even win the league title. And it was that phrase — "national relevance" — that Hocutt referenced when he announced Shannon's firing on Nov. 28, one day after Miami completed the regular season.

That'll be Golden's primary

charge.

Offensive line coach Jeff Stoutland will serve as the interim coach for Miami's bowl game against Notre Dame on Dec. 31, but by then, Golden will likely be well into his plans for 2011. The Hurricanes have about 15 scholarships to issue this recruiting season, and some of the high schoolers who committed to Miami under Shannon have since said they're open to looking at other schools. □



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Resilient Khan aims for title unification in 2011

GREG BEACHAM

AP Sports Writer

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Before Amir Khan left for his precautionary brain scan, he posed in the ring with his WBA 140-pound title belt — along with two bruised eyes, scars on his chest and dried blood still stuck to his lip and front teeth.

That's what a real boxer looks like, and the flashy British star proved he's extremely real in a grinding victory over Marcos Maidana.

Khan (24-1, 17 KOs) outboxed the Argentine slugger in the early rounds and survived a brutal onslaught on his feet in the 10th round, holding on for a unanimous decision. Although the Mandalay Bay Events Center was only about half-full for his Las Vegas debut, nobody in attendance could doubt Khan had taken the best shots of a ferocious puncher and survived.

"We knew he had speed, and we knew he was a great fighter, a great boxer," Golden Boy promoter Richard Schaefer said. "We didn't know about how he would react when the going gets tough, because he's been knocked out once before. I think he went from having one of the most questionable chins in boxing to having one of the best. He showed the heart. This kid is not going to quit."

Now that Khan has the tough-guy credentials many doubted he could ever earn, along with a major boost for his stateside fame, he can return to his new home in Bolton.

He deserves a December break after nearly four months of training that took him from Hollywood to the Philippines, where he sparred with fellow Freddie Roach pupil Manny Pacquiao.

Even before Khan began his rest, Schaefer and Khan's camp already had settled on a clear plan for 2011.

Schaefer said Khan intends to make his next title defense in Britain, likely on April 16 — which could turn out to be a monster day for British fight fans. Promoters also hope Wladimir Klitschko will fight English heavyweight

champion David Haye that night in Las Vegas in a three-belt unification bout.

Khan's April opponent could be Golden Boy 140-pound prospect Victor Ortiz, who fought to a majority draw against Lamont Peterson on Khan's undercard, or veteran Zab Judah, the former welterweight champion who moved down to 140 this year. Khan then intends to return to the United States in July to fight the winner of Timothy Bradley's Jan. 29 title unification bout with Devon Alexander in Pontiac, Mich. Alexander, from St. Louis, is the WBC super lightweight champion, while Palm Springs' Bradley holds the WBO belt. While both are outstanding fighters atop a loaded division, neither has Khan's worldwide fame or television appeal.

"Next year, we're going to know who's the undisputed 140-pound world champion," Schaefer said. "I think it will be Amir Khan, but Bradley or Alexander could easily take it for themselves. There are so many outstanding fighters coming into their primes in this division."

A likely bout with unbeaten Floyd Mayweather Jr. also looms on the distant horizon if Khan can stay tough and Mayweather can stay out of jail — but there's plenty of work to do before then.

Roach wasn't entirely pleased with Khan's effort against Maidana, noting the fighter strayed from Roach's game plan to keep him out of a slugfest. Khan's mistakes were most glaring in the middle rounds, when Maidana took control with his aggression, and again in the 10th round, when Maidana reduced Khan to a glassy-eyed, wobbly kneed mess.

But Khan stayed on his feet and kept moving for all 12 rounds, making full use of his excellent conditioning under coach Alex Ariza, who also works alongside Roach with Manny Pacquiao.

Schaefer and Oscar De La Hoya also heaped praise on Maidana (29-2), whose crowd-pleasing style makes



Amir Khan, of England and Marcos Maidana, of Argentina trade blows during the round of their WBA super lightweight championship boxing match Saturday, Dec. 11, 2010, in Las Vegas. Khan won by unanimous decision.

Associated Press

him a highly entertaining fighter despite deficiencies in technique and discipline. Schaefer and De La Hoya intend to travel to Argentina next month to hype up Maidana, and they would like to match him in early 2011

against the loser of Bradley's bout with Alexander.

Khan has been looking forward to getting home to England, but after his break, he's likely to keep training with Roach in Los Angeles. His fame isn't nearly so suffocating

stateside — although after this performance, it's only going to grow.

"I took everything he gave me," Khan said. "Those who said Amir Khan couldn't take a shot, I proved them wrong." □

AP source: Meyer walking away with health concerns

AP Sports Writer

By MARK LONG

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Urban Meyer is walking away from Florida because of health concerns, according to a person with knowledge of the situation.

Meyer has a recurring burning sensation in his chest that doctors told him last week would raise cardiovascular risk factors if he continued to coach, the person told The Associated Press Sunday on condition of anonymity because Meyer's health issues are confidential.

The Gainesville Sun first reported the story.

Meyer announced his resignation Wednesday and said health was not the reason he was walking away. He said he wanted to spend more time with his family.

The person with knowledge of Meyer's health said the coach can resolve his chest pain with "constant monitoring," which he already has started doing.

Meyer first resigned Dec. 27, 2009, three weeks after he was rushed to a hospital because of chest pain. He changed his mind the following day and instead decided to take a leave of absence. He scaled back some, but changed little about his work habits once the season began.

Florida athletic director Jeremy Foley said Wednesday that Meyer has worked his tail off.

"You think of what he's rebuilt. He built one at Bowling Green, he built one at Utah, he built one here," Foley said. "It's not just sacrifices here the last six years. That's 10 years of their lives, not to mention what he did before that as an assistant coach.

It's his time to step back and spend time with his family. You're not getting it back. I admire him for that."

Meyer hasn't ruled out coaching again. His future likely will be tied to his health. Meyer was diagnosed with esophageal spasms in January and began taking medicine to treat them.

The person with knowledge of Meyer's health said the spasms have been under control, but other symptoms have lingered. Those prompted Meyer to talk with doctors and family members, and then he decided that continuing to coach at his current pace would be too risky.

Meyer will coach his final game in the Outback Bowl on Jan. 1 against Penn State, but he intends to remain in Gainesville and continue to work in the athletic department.

Florida hired Texas defensive coordinator Will Muschamp to succeed Meyer on Saturday. Muschamp has the dubious task of replacing Meyer after 64 wins and two national championships in six seasons. □

Infinity Blade for iPhone/iPad looks incredible, what there is of it

Want a glimpse at what the future of mobile gaming looks like? Take a gander at Infinity Blade, a just-released game for the iPhone and iPad that looks like it belongs on a console.

Developed by the hardcore, blood-drenched gamers at Epic, which brought you Gears of War for the Xbox 360, Infinity Blade is the first iPhone game I've seen that truly could be mistaken for a console game. Others have come close (take Gameloft's sci-fi shooter N.O.V.A., for example, or Archetype, a fine multiplayer shoot-em-up) but this new swords-and-sorcery role-playing game takes the cake in the looks department, at least.

With visuals powered by the Unreal 3 gaming engine, Infinity Blade (\$6, available as a universal app for the iPhone, iPod Touch, and iPad) takes place ... well, a long time ago in a land far, far away, where an evil king lurks in a dark tower guarded by all manner of brutish guards, cutthroat assassins, and hulking monstrosities and yes, they're

armed to the teeth.

As the hero, your quest is to (single-handedly, of course) storm the castle, eliminate a parade of bloodthirsty creatures along the way, break into the king's chambers, kill his champion, and finally take out the king himself. Your motivation? How's this: He killed your dad. And your dad's dad. And your dad's dad's ... well, more about that in a moment.

Unlike many other iPhone action games (including Epic Citadel, an Unreal engine-powered proof-of-concept created by Epic prior to this new title) in which you control your movement using a pair of virtual joysticks (one for movement, the other for looking around), you move about in Infinity Blade by tapping the pulsating circles that appear here and there during the action. Tap a circle, and your character will walk to the designated location: a treasure chest, a doorway, a flight of stairs, or a foul-tempered opponent.

When it's time to pull out your

sword and fight, you swing your blade by swiping the screen left, right, up, or down, or you can tap buttons to raise your shield, cast a spell, or activate a "super" battle mode. The action is fast and furious split-second timing is required to parry blows from your opponent or conjure a bolt of lightning between attacks. You can also string your swipes into devastating combos, and if you prevail, you can end the combat with a frenzy of finishing moves.

Being the action-oriented role-playing game that it is, Infinity Blade lets you customize your character with dozens of accessories, ranging from swords and armor to magic rings and potions, and as you level up, you can add points to your strength, magic, health, and defense (or "shield") attributes.

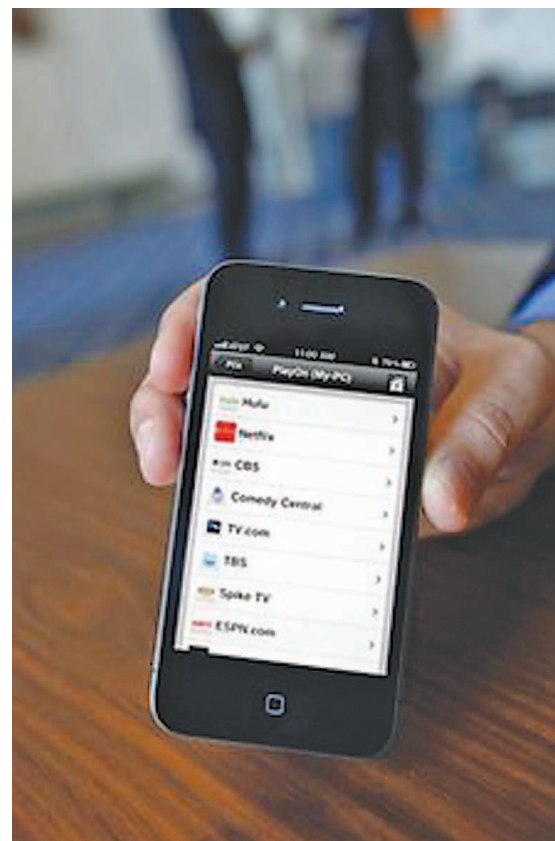
All very nice, but the main attraction of Infinity Blade is, as I've already said, how it looks: in a word, awesome. The creatures in the game have been painstakingly rendered, with rich, detailed textures,



smooth character movement, and realistic environmental elements, like swaying trees and flags that flap in the wind. Animations that in other iOS titles might normally be handled by Quicktime movies are (handily) rendered here using Infinity Blade's in-game engine. We're talking eye candy galore, particularly on the iPad's 9.7-inch display.

To my mind, Infinity Blade represents the future of mobile gaming and I mean that literally, because (if you ask me) the current game, as

it stands, isn't quite there yet. One of the joys of the Epic Citadel demo was how you could take your time, wandering from a dark, foreboding monastery to an ivy-covered street with laundry pinned to a clothesline, swaying in the breeze. In Infinity Blade, there is no leisurely wandering; instead, you topple a bad guy, tap your way to the next treasure chest or doorway, and battle again. You could almost say it's on rails, like the recent Rage HD from Id. □



WASHINGTON — It won't be long before video from the Internet is always within reach whether it's on a smart phone, a tablet computer or a high-end television in your living room. But what if there's nothing worth watching? Just as the online video market is starting to take shape, federal regulators have a rare opportunity to help protect its future as they scrutinize Comcast Corp.'s proposal to take over NBC Universal. Regulators are pushing for tough conditions

Web video future at heart of Comcast, NBC review

to ensure that Comcast can't stifle online video services by withholding content or pushing up prices for marquee NBC programs at a time viewers are starting to turn to the Internet for recent movies or the latest episodes of "Saturday Night Live," "30 Rock" and other popular TV shows.

The concessions they extract from Comcast in its bid for NBC will help determine whether customers can someday realistically drop their cable subscriptions and go online-only for their TV.

So far, established media companies, including broadcasters and cable providers, are moving online with caution, fearful that the Internet could jeopardize business models they have relied on for decades. They have kept many television shows and movies off the Web, and built barriers around what's available online, restricting who can watch it and where.

Comcast has been resisting federal regulators' efforts to tear down some of those walls, arguing that those efforts are unnecessary because NBC Universal accounts for about 10 percent of television viewing in the U.S. and less than 10

percent of U.S. box office revenue and is therefore too small to dictate how the industry will develop.

But the two sides are close to an agreement, which could pave the way for the Federal Communications Commission and the Justice Department to approve the deal as early as this week.

Comcast's proposed \$13.75 billion purchase of a 51 percent stake in NBC Universal would transform the media landscape. It would give the nation's largest cable television company control over a major movie studio, Universal Studios, and some of the most-watched channels on TV, including the NBC and Telemundo broadcast networks and CNBC, Bravo and Oxygen on cable. So what regulators do or don't do will set key ground rules for the industry.

"Whether you're holding a remote or using a mouse, this merger will affect the prices you pay, the choices you have and the pace of video innovation for many years to come," said Colin Crowell, a former FCC senior staffer and 20-year congressional aide who is now advising several groups concerned about the combination.

Both Comcast and NBC insist that Internet video represents an opportunity to expand their reach and say they have no intention of stunting the growth of the nascent market. But already, Comcast is participating in an industry-wide program to limit online viewing of many popular shows to cable subscribers. And NBC has joined other broadcast networks in blocking access to full episodes of its shows through Google Inc.'s Google TV software, which delivers Web content to TV sets.

Until recently, online viewing had largely been limited to personal computers, using standard Web browsers or video software. Some shows are free, with ads, just like regular broadcasts. Others carry a fee as little as 99 cents for a single television episode through Amazon.com Inc., for example, or less than \$10 a month for unlimited access to programming on Netflix Inc. Now, though, a slew of new devices relay Internet video to television sets. The Apple TV and Roku set-top boxes, for instance, serve as bridges to deliver online programs to the TV. Some high-end sets connect directly to the Internet. □

‘Narnia’ cruises to No. 1 debut with modest \$24.5M



In this film publicity image released by 20th Century Fox, from left, Georgie Henley, Ben Barnes, Laura Brent, and Skandar Keynes are shown in a scene from, ‘The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader.’

(AP Photo/20th Century Fox, Phil Bray)

By DAVID GERMAIN,
AP Movie Writer

LOS ANGELES – The latest chapter in “The Chronicles of Narnia” saga has sailed to the top of the weekend box office, though the franchise sank to a weak debut compared to the first two movies.

“The Voyage of the Dawn Treader,” the third in the franchise based on C.S. Lewis’ fantasy novels, took in \$24.5 million domestically, according to studio estimates Sunday.

Johnny Depp and Angelina Jolie’s romantic thriller “The Tourist” opened in second-place with \$17 million.

“Dawn Treader” revenues showed a huge drop from 2005’s “The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe,” which took in \$65.6 million over opening weekend, and 2008’s “Prince Caspian,” which did \$55 million.

But with the movie topping \$80 million in 85 countries overseas, for a worldwide total of \$105.5 million, executives at distributor 20th Century Fox said they are making good headway toward recouping the movie’s budget of just under \$150 million.

“We had a huge task ahead of us to resurrect this franchise and get movie-goers back to that feeling of affection they had for the first movie. I think all the evidence says we’ve

accomplished that,” said Chris Aronson, head of distribution for Fox, which took over the “Narnia” series when Disney dropped it after the second movie finished at \$141.6 million domestically, less than half the \$291.7 million haul of the first. “I think they all had such a bad taste in their mouth from the last one. That’s why we really had our work cut out for us.”

“Dawn Treader” follows the adventures of some of the Pevensie siblings from the first two films as they take a magical sea voyage with their royal pal Caspian. Liam Neeson again provides the voice of talking lion Aslan. Sony’s “The Tourist” also had a quiet start. The film stars Jolie as an Englishwoman who picks up a mild-mannered American (Depp) on a train in Europe as a diversion while she’s on the run from cops and gangsters.

“You have two of the biggest stars in the world, so expectations could be skewed a bit,” said Rory Bruer, Sony’s head of distribution. “But it certainly is a respectable opening.”

The previous weekend’s No. 1 movie, Disney’s animated musical “Tangled,” slipped to third-place with \$14.6 million, raising its domestic total to \$115.6 million.

Hollywood remains in a lull

as it heads into the Christmas frenzy. Among the movies that will compete for holiday audiences are Jeff Bridges’ sci-fi tale “Tron: Legacy,” Robert De Niro and Ben Stiller’s sequel “Little Fockers,” Jack Black’s comic adventure “Gulliver’s Travel’s” and Reese Witherspoon’s romance “How Do You Know.”

Overall revenues totaled \$94 million, down 3 percent from the same weekend last year, when “The Princess and the Frog” was No. 1, according to box-office tracker Hollywood.com.

“The marketplace is pretty much in a malaise, unless you’re a specialty or indie film playing in a limited number of theaters,” said Hollywood.com analyst Paul Dergarabedian. “Those are really the bright spots in an otherwise lackluster post-Thanksgiving period.”

In limited release, Natalie Portman’s ballet drama “Black Swan” expanded to more theaters and leaped into the top-10, coming in at No. 6 with \$3.3 million in just 90 cinemas. That gave it a strong average of \$37,024 a theater, compared to \$6,892 in 3,555 cinemas for “Dawn Treader” and \$6,168 in 2,756 locations for “The Tourist.”

Distributor Fox Searchlight expands “Black Swan” into nationwide release Friday,

three days after the Golden Globe nominations, where the film is considered a likely contender in acting and other categories. Portman, also

a strong Academy Awards prospect, plays a ballerina coming unglued amid the stress of fending off a rival for the lead in “Swan Lake.” □



In this film publicity image released by Disney, from left, Jessie, voiced by Joan Cusack, Buzz Lightyear, voiced by Tim Allen and Woody, voiced by Tom Hanks are shown in a scene from ‘Toy Story 3.’ The American Film Institute named the movie as one of the year’s 10 most outstanding films Sunday, Dec. 12, 2010.

(AP Photo/Disney Pixar)

‘Toy Story 3,’ ‘Social Network’ among AFI’s top 10

LOS ANGELES – The blockbusters “Inception” and “Toy Story 3,” the Facebook drama “The Social Network,” the heist thriller “The Town” and the Western “True Grit” are among the American Film Institute’s top 10 movies of the year.

Also on the AFI’s list Sunday were the ballet drama “Black Swan,” the boxing saga “The Fighter,” the lesbian-family tale “The Kids Are All Right,” the survival story “127 Hours” and the Ozarks crime thriller “Winter’s Bone.”

Unlike other film honors, AFI does not rank films or pick one as the year’s best. The filmmakers behind the top-10 choices will be honored at a luncheon Jan. 14.

The British monarchy drama “The King’s Speech,” an Academy Awards favorite, was ineligible because it is a British production, and the AFI awards honor films with largely American backing. But the AFI did present a special award to “The King’s Speech.”

Another special award went to the education documentary “Waiting for ‘Superman.’” It was ineligible for the AFI’s top 10, which honors narrative films.

This is the first time the honors included special awards, which allow the group to acknowledge “outstanding work outside the traditional AFI criteria,” said Bob Gazzale, AFI president.

The AFI also picked its top 10 TV programs of 2010: “The Big C,” “Boardwalk Empire,” “Breaking Bad,” “Glee,” “Mad Men,” “Modern Family,” “The Pacific,” “Temple Grandin,” “30 Rock” and “The Walking Dead.”

The top 10 lists were chosen by two 13-member panels, one each for movies and television.

For film, members included director Lee Daniels, writer Diablo Cody and critics Leonard Maltin, Claudia Puig and Lisa Schwarzbaum. For TV, members included actress Jennifer Love Hewitt, producer Steven Bochco and critics Mary McNamara, James Poniewozik and Matt Roush. □



Is Santa Claus rally almost done?

NEW YORK—The December rally may be reaching its climax, with just two weeks to go before Santa Claus makes his midnight run. Dwindling volume, excess optimism, and history all point to a stock market that could be running out of steam.

Investors appear to have grown complacent as the CBOE Volatility Index, or VIX (.VIX), has fallen to levels not seen since April. Stocks have made new highs on almost a daily basis. The S&P 500 (.SPX) closed on Friday at its highest level since September 2008 and the Nasdaq (.IXIC) scored its best finish since late December 2007, with many expecting gains to run through the end of the year.

But Cleveland Rueckert, an analyst at Birinyi Associates in Stamford, Connecticut, believes the year-end rally may be largely done.

“The majority of that gain may already have occurred,” he said. “Most people are more likely to be closing out their books at the end of the month and looking for opportunities to open new positions at the start of the next month.”

Rueckert said that over the last 65 years, when the S&P 500 has rallied at year’s end, the average gain has been 3.4 percent between Thanksgiving and New Year’s. So far, the index has risen 3.5 percent since the start of the period.

“A lot of stocks this year have had very big gains and it really wouldn’t be surprising to see a lot of the managers close out positions and take some vacation time,” he said. Monday starts the last five-day trading week before Christmas.

The following week will be cut short by the holiday. With December 25 falling on

Saturday this year, the U.S. stock market will be closed on Friday, December 24, in observance of the Christmas holiday.

Inflation data for November will dominate the week’s economic calendar, with the U.S. Producer Price Index due on Tuesday and the U.S. Consumer Price Index set for Wednesday.

BULLS IN THE EGGNOG

Some see signs of the bulls getting into the eggnog.

The American Association of Individual Investors’ latest sentiment survey shows bullish sentiment reached a four-week high. What’s more, bullish sentiment has spent 14 weeks above its historical average -- its longest streak in six years.

That is often seen as a contrarian indicator.

Last week, the S&P 500 broke through closely watched resistance levels and climbed for six of the last eight days to close at new two-year highs. But gains have been accompanied by decreasing participation.

Average volume during the last three days of the week was 7.76 billion, well below this year’s daily average of 8.62 billion.

“We are entering now the beginning of the seasonal pattern where volume really dries up,” said Nicholas Colas, chief market strategist at the ConvergeX Group in New York. “It seems like it’s starting a little sooner than usual.

“I don’t think we’re at any risk of a meaningful sell-off into the end of the year, but I think the basic contours of what the economy looks like are pretty well set,” he said.

That sentiment was reflected in the VIX, also known as Wall Street’s favorite barometer of investor fear. Although the VIX edged

up on Friday, the index has fallen for six of the last nine sessions. It now stands at 17.61 after hitting its lowest since April.

The 15-day moving average of the advance/decline ratio on the New York Stock Exchange, a measure of the proportion of advancing to falling stocks, has started to slip and currently stands at around 1.5. It peaked this year in July at about double that, according to Reuters data.

In addition, the three-day moving average of stocks making new 52-week highs has also turned lower after a spurt at the start of the month. It now stands at around 125, down from more than 250 at the beginning of the month.

The breadth and ratios have not been “on board” this rally of late, according to a report from McMillan Analysis Corp.

Equity-only put-call ratios remain on “sell” signals, the analysts say.

Chart-minded investors are bullish. The S&P 500 has closed well above 1,228, the 61.8 percent Fibonacci retracement of the 2007-2009 bear market slide, a key technical level.

“When a market surpasses a certain retracement level, then the probability increases of a rise to the next retracement level, which in this case would be a 76.4 percent retracement and that’s a ways up at 1,362,” said Chris Burba, a short-term market technician at Standard & Poor’s.

The 1,120 level, the top of a recent trading range, is seen as strong support.

On Friday, the S&P 500 closed at 1,240.40. It was up 1.3 percent for the week.

LOOK OUT FOR FED HAWKS



An agreement to extend the Bush-era tax cuts over the next two years has started to seem like less of a done deal. The agreement is likely to be passed by the U.S. Senate on Tuesday, but may face a tougher road to passage in the House of Representatives.

If the legislation stalls, resulting in higher capital gains and dividend taxes at the start of next year, then U.S. stock prices could fall.

The Federal Reserve’s policy-making body, the Federal Open Markets Committee,

will convene on Tuesday for its last meeting of the year.

The recent clutch of stronger economic data could spark a debate over how far to stretch the central bank’s \$600 billion stimulus plan, designed to keep interest rate low through bond purchases.

“The hawkish members on the Fed may seize on this cluster of strong numbers and use them to support the argument against” quantitative easing, said Pierre Ellis, senior global economist at Decision Economics in New York. □

FOR SALE



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This spacious villa with pool consists of 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, large garage, living room, dining room and alarm system. Master bedroom incl. a spacious walk-in closet. Brandnew kitchen with high end appliances. Built up size 363m², on 1078m² of land. Tropical garden & covered terrace with great views.

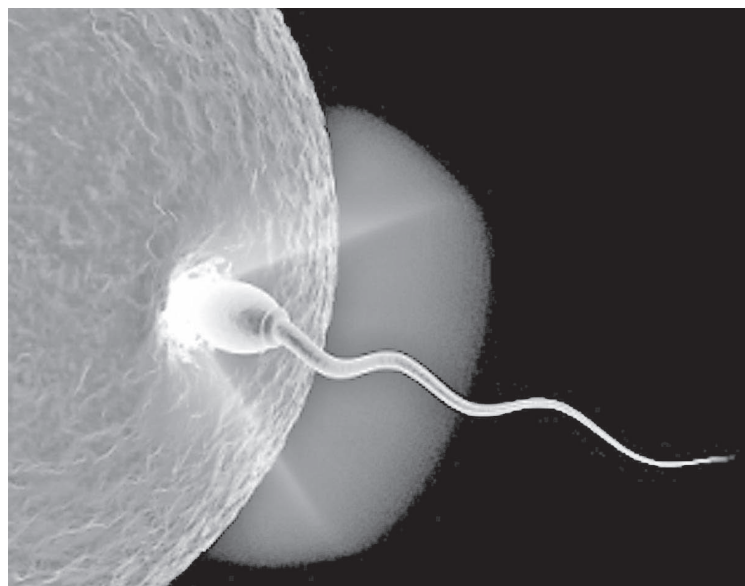
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Sperm-Producing Cells Coaxed to Produce Insulin



Researchers have been able to prod human cells that normally produce sperm to make insulin instead and, after transplanting them, the cells briefly cured mice with type 1 diabetes.

“The goal is to coax these cells into making enough insulin to cure diabetes. These cells don’t secrete enough insulin to cure diabetes in humans yet,” cautioned study senior researcher G. Ian Gallicano, an associate professor in the department of Biochemistry and Molecular and Cellular Biology, and director of the Transgenic Core Facility at Georgetown University Medical Center, in Washington D.C.

Gallicano and his colleagues will be presenting the findings Sunday at the American Society of Cell Biology annual meeting in Philadelphia.

Type 1 diabetes is believed to be an autoimmune disease in which the body mistakenly attacks and destroys the insulin-producing beta cells in the pancreas. As a result, people with type 1 diabetes must rely on insulin injections to be able to process the foods they eat. Without this additional insulin, people with type 1 diabetes could not survive.

Doctors have had some success with pancreas transplants, and with transplants of just the

pancreatic beta cells (also known as islet cells). There are several problems with these types of transplants, however. One is that as with any transplant, when the transplanted material comes from a donor, the body sees the new tissue as foreign and attempts to destroy it. So, transplants require immune-suppressing medications. The other concern is that the autoimmune attack that destroyed the original beta cells can destroy the newly transplanted cells.

A benefit of the technique developed by Gallicano and his team is that the cells are coming from the same person they’ll be transplanted in, so the body won’t see the cells as foreign.

The researchers used spermatogonial cells, extracted from the testicles of deceased human organ donors. In the testes, the function of these cells is to produce sperm, according to Gallicano. However, outside of the testes the cells behave a lot like human eggs do, and there are certain genes that turn them on and make them behave like embryonic-like stem cells, he said.

“Once you take them out of their niche, the genes are primed and ready to go,” he explained.

After removing the

spermatogonial cells from the testes, the researchers put them into a special media. According to Gallicano, it’s here that the cells are “chemically” instructed to develop into beta-like cells. In other research attempting to create insulin-producing cells, such as induced pluripotent stem cells, researchers must insert outside genes to get the cells to behave like stem cells. Such outside genes have the potential to lead to additional problems, such as creating cancer.

Once the cells were coaxed into becoming insulin-producing cells, the researchers transplanted them into the mice. The result: blood sugar levels in the mice were reduced for about a week, essentially curing the rodents’ diabetes for a brief time, Gallicano said.

He said he hopes that by

transplanting the cells into different areas of the body the researchers may be able to achieve longer blood sugar control.

The only side effect of concern, said Gallicano, is a certain type of tumor called a teratoma. But, he said, it appears with these cells it would take significantly more transplanted cells than would likely be needed before such a tumor might potentially be created.

Funding for the study came from the American Diabetes Association, Georgetown University Medical Center and private donors.

“This study is a positive step, but you still have a risk of teratomas, and the autoimmunity could destroy the new insulin-producing cells,” said one expert, Dr. Camillo Riccordi, scientific director of the Diabetes

Research Institute in Hollywood, Fla. “And the other limitation is that this is only for men, not for women.”

But, perhaps a bigger concern in replacing beta cells, said Riccordi, is the potential of causing dangerously low blood sugar levels. Both beta and alpha cells are destroyed in people with type 1 diabetes, and alpha cells produce glucagon, a hormone that increases blood sugar levels in the body when they drop too low. So, if researchers only replace insulin-producing beta cells, and not alpha cells, there is a potential of causing low blood sugar levels, which can also be deadly.

Still, “it is important to explore all avenues in diabetes research,” Riccordi said, “because what you learn in one area may be helpful for others. But don’t place too much hope or hype in one area.” □

Ten dead as H1N1 flu returns to Britain

LONDON (Reuters) – The H1N1 swine flu virus which swept the globe last year has returned to Britain with 10 people dying in the last six weeks, health officials said Saturday.

Britain’s Health Protection Agency said the 10 deaths had occurred in adults all under the age of 65, most of whom had underlying health issues.

“Over the last few weeks, we have seen a rise in the number of cases of seasonal flu both H1N1 (2009) and flu B in the community,” Professor John Watson, head of the HPA’s respiratory diseases department, said in a statement.

“We have also received reports of patients with serious illness requiring hospitalization and outbreaks of flu in schools across the country.”

H1N1 flu broke out in March 2009 and quickly spread across the world.

The World Health Organization said about

18,450 people died from the virus, including many pregnant women and young people. WHO declared the pandemic over in August.

Watson told the Independent newspaper Britain appeared to be at the “vanguard” of the latest outbreak with other European countries beginning to see some swine flu cases.

The HPA said it was often the case that a pandemic strain became the most common seasonal strain during the next flu season, so it was not surprising to see the return of H1N1 (2009).

An HPA spokeswoman said there had been an increase in the number of flu cases being reported at doctors’ surgeries across Britain but this was to be expected over the winter months.

“In terms of actual numbers of cases of flu, it’s nothing unusual,” she said. □

Manuscripts Reveal Legend of Jesus' Great-Grandmother

Wynne Parry

A pious, and ultimately, saintly woman named Ismeria was grandmother to the Virgin Mary, and great-grandmother to Jesus, according to a medieval legend.

Now, an examination of two manuscripts from 14th- and 15th-century Florence, Italy, reveals who exactly the legendary great-grandmother was, telling the story of the woman who gave birth to St. Anne, who became Mary's mother. The story of her life reflects expectations among Florentines living at that time, according to Catherine Lawless of the University of Limerick in Ireland. [Who Was Jesus the Man?]

"This article tells us a lot about fourteenth-century Florentine religious beliefs and practices, and nothing about the 'historical family' of Christ," Lawless wrote in an e-mail to LiveScience.

The story of St. Ismeria's life, rather, is rich in information on how a pious

woman could be expected to live a married and widowed life, Lawless wrote in the Journal of Medieval History in an article posted online on Oct. 6.

According to the legend that unfolds in the manuscripts, Ismeria was a beautiful and devout woman who married "Santo Liseo," a patriarch. On their wedding day, the two made a deal that reconciled marriage with the demands of a pious life. Ismeria asked that Liseo grant her the holy contemplative life, in which they would stay together in the matrimonial bed one night each month, except for the month of holy fasting, Lawless writes. Liseo agreed to this, and after 12 years, they had a daughter, Anne. Twelve years later, Liseo died and Ismeria prayed that she might join him. Her relatives then took all of her riches, and left her poor, so Ismeria moved into a hospital. While there, she is credited with performing two miracles.


A deaf mute man came into the hospital, and Ismeria asked him, to tell her, in the name of God, where he felt sick. He replied that he was cured, and thanked God. Neither Ismeria nor the man had any money for food, so Ismeria asked for a shell full of water. She prayed, and the shell was filled with fish, enough to feed all the sick in the hospital, who were cured upon eating the fish. She then returned to her room, and God called her to Paradise, Lawless writes.

After St. Ismeria's death, the Virgin Mary, Jesus Christ, the 12 apostles and others traveled to the hospital to honor her.

There are no clues to the legend's origins, but it's possible it was enjoyed more as a story, rather than as an educational text on the life of a saint, according to Lawless.

"Apart from the two miracles performed at the end of the narrative, the emphasis is on penitence and the leading of a good life within marriage," Lawless writes. □

Doctor on duty
ORANJESTAD



SAN NICOLAAS

Pharmacy on duty

Oranjestad:
Botica Central

San Nicolaas:
Botica Centro Medico



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Noord	587-0009
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Brandweer II	582-1108
Tipline di Polis	11141
Hospital	587-4300

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Police station	582-4000

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Police station	584-5000
BGD San Nicolas	584-1606
Valero Security	584-1720

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Serlimar	584-6456
Setar	582-5151
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Web	585-4600
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Bureau Sostenemi	588-1010
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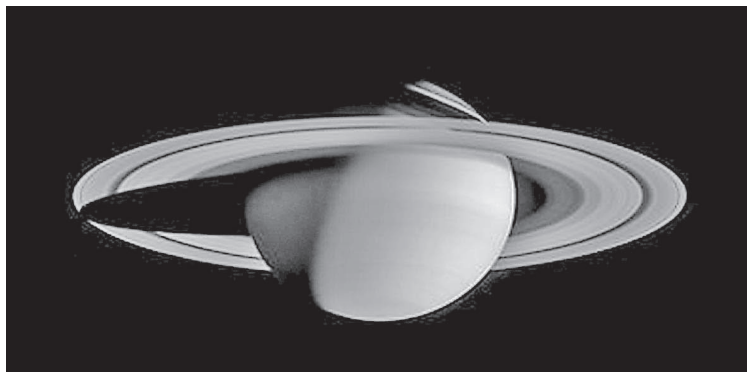
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Saturn's rings: Leftovers from a cosmic murder?



This Oct. 6, 2004 photo provided by NASA, taken by the Cassini Saturn Probe, shows the planet Saturn and its rings. One of the most evocative mysteries of the solar system, where Saturn got its stunning rings, may actually be a case of cosmic murder with an unnamed moon of Saturn, that disappeared about 4.5 billion years ago, as the potential victim. Suspicion has fallen on a disk of hydrogen gas, that surrounded Saturn when its dozens of moons were forming, but has now fled the scene. And the cause of death? A possible forced plunge into Saturn.

(AP Photo/NASA)

By SETH BORENSTEIN,
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON — One of the solar system's most evocative mysteries — the origin of Saturn's rings — may be a case of cosmic murder, new research suggests.

The victim: an unnamed moon of Saturn that disappeared about 4.5 billion years ago.

The suspect: a disk of hydrogen gas that once surrounded Saturn when its dozens of moons were forming, but has now fled the crime scene.

The cause of death: A forced plunge into Saturn.

And those spectacular and colorful rings are the only evidence left. As the doomed moon made its death spiral, Saturn robbed its outer layer of ice, which then formed rings, according to a new theory published online Sunday in the journal *Nature*.

"Saturn was an accomplice

and that produced the rings," said study author Robin Canup, an astronomer at the Southwest Research Institute in Boulder, Colo.

The mystery of Saturn's rings "has puzzled people for centuries," said Cornell astronomer Joe Burns, who wasn't involved in the study and said Canup's new theory makes sense.

One of the leading theories has been that either some of Saturn's many moons crashed into each other, or an asteroid crashed into some of them — leaving debris that formed the rings. The trouble is Saturn's moons are half ice and half rock and the planet's seven rings are now as much as 95 percent ice and probably used to be all ice, Canup said. If the rings were formed by a moon-on-moon crash or an asteroid-on-moon, there would be more rocks in the rings.

Something had to have stripped away the outer ice of a moon, a big moon, Canup said.

So her theory starts billions of years ago when the planets' moons were forming. A large disk of hydrogen gas circled Saturn and that helped both create and destroy moons. Large inner moons probably made regular plunges into the planet, pulled by the disk of gas.

These death spirals took about 10,000 years and the key to understanding the rings' origins is what happened to them during that time. According to Canup's computer model, Saturn stripped the ice away from a huge moon while it was far enough from the planet that the ice would be trapped in a ring. The original rings were 10 to 100 times larger than they are now, but over time the ice in the outer rings has coalesced into some of Saturn's tiny inner moons, Canup said. So what began as moons has become rings and then new moons.

This helps explain Tethys, an odd inner moon that didn't quite fit other moon formation theories, she said. Saturn has 62 moons — 53 of them have names. New ones are discovered regularly by NASA's Cassini probe.

But this doesn't explain rings on other planets in our solar system, such as Jupiter, Neptune and Uranus, which probably formed in a different way, Canup said. □

Giant stork once roamed Indonesian island



In this undated sketch by Inge van Noortwijk and released by John Wiley & Sons, a six-foot (180 centimeters)-tall giant stork stands next to a dwarf *Homo floresiensis* that had lived on the remote island of Flores in Indonesia. According to the December 2010 issue of the *Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society*, fossils of the giant stork, which lived 20,000 to 50,000 years ago, have been discovered on the far-flung Indonesian island that has been home to many extreme-sized creatures, from tiny human-like 'hobbits' and dwarf elephants to the world's largest-known rats and lizards.

(AP Photo/John Wiley & Sons, Inge van Noortwijk)

By ROBIN McDOWELL,
Associated Press

JAKARTA, Indonesia — Fossils of a giant stork have been discovered on a far-flung Indonesian island that has been home to many extreme-sized creatures — from tiny human-like "hobbits" and dwarf elephants to the world's largest-known rats and lizards. Authors Hanneke Meijer

and Rokus Due wrote in the December issue of the *Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society* that leg bones from the marabou stork, which lived 20,000 to 50,000 years ago, indicate it stood around 6 feet (180 centimeters) tall and weighed up to 35 pounds (16 kilograms).

It appears to have been primarily land-based, they wrote. The bones were found during excavations of the Liang Bua cave in the west of the island of Flores at a depth of around 15 feet (4.7 meters). Flores, located on Indonesia's eastern edge, has never been connected to another island or mainland, shaping evolution of historic wildlife, with many small-sized warm blooded animals growing larger than elsewhere on the planet, and big-sized mammals becoming more diminutive, said Colin Groves, a professor at Australian National University who was not related to the study, citing the so-called "island rule" in biology. With no mammalian carnivores, birds and reptiles faced less competition for food, accounting for some of their massive size.

Even today, rats more than 16 inches (40 centimeters) from head to body can be found on Flores. It is also home to Komodo dragons, the largest lizards on earth, which grow to be up to 10 feet (3 meters) long, weighing up to 150 pounds (70 kilograms).

At the same time, food scarcities, as compared to on the continent, may have contributed to reduced sizes of elephants and others.

Most famously, the bones of a 4-foot (120-centimeter)-high human species, popularly known as the 'hobbit,' or *Homo floresiensis*, which survived until around 17,000 years ago, were also found on the island. Meijer, a paleontologist from the National Museum of Natural History in Leiden, the Netherlands, and Due, from the National Archaeological Research Center in Jakarta, noted that their stork "must have towered over the tiny *H. floresiensis*." □

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Presidente Evo Morales:

Documento climático Cancún “no favorece” a Bolivia

LAPAZ (AP) - El presidente Evo Morales dijo el sábado que continuará con su lucha en defensa de la “Madre tierra” a pesar de que la conferencia de Naciones Unidas sobre cambio climático en Cancún aprobó acuerdos finales a los que Bolivia se oponía. “En Cancún aprobaron un documento que no favorece al pueblo boliviano... Seguiremos solos en la lucha junto al pueblo Bolivia”, señaló Morales en un acto en la región central de Cochabamba. “Cuando debatimos, hay potencias internacionales que no quieren entender (que) nos marginan. No toman en cuenta nuestra propuesta. Nos dejaron, no importa, solos, pero con el apoyo del pueblo del mundo”, agregó.

La conferencia de Naciones Unidas sobre cambio climático aprobó el sábado un conjunto de acuerdos para enfrentar el calentamiento global y respaldar a las naciones más pobres, a pesar del rechazo de Bolivia. El negociador en jefe de Bolivia, Pablo Solón, aseguró que la aprobación de los acuerdos a pesar de que no había consenso, como señalan las reglas de la ONU, establecía un precedente “funesto”. Sin embargo, los acuerdos en Cancún fueron apoyados por casi la totalidad de los más de 190 países que acudieron a la cumbre, incluidos Estados Unidos y China, los dos mayores emisores de gases de efecto invernadero. En uno de



El presidente de Bolivia Evo Morales habla en una conferencia de prensa durante la conferencia de Naciones Unidas sobre cambio climático en Cancún, México, el jueves 9 de diciembre de 2010. (Foto AP/Israel Leal)

los puntos de los acuerdos se establece que los países ricos se comprometen a movilizar a favor de las naciones pobres 100.000 millones de dólares al año para el 2020. Bolivia criticó que el fondo fuera administrado por el Banco Mundial, por considerar que no garantiza los intereses de las naciones pobres. □

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